

HAZARIBAGH OLD RECORD

(1761-1878)



सत्यमेव जयते

PREFACE

In the course of the revision of the District Gazetteers of the State of Bihar the excellent source materials still available in the old correspondence volumes in the District Record Rooms are being studied. Till late in the nineteenth century letters received by the District Officer and those issued from his office used to be copied or kept in original and preserved in bound volumes. Many of these old correspondence volumes through sheer age and ravages of dust, insects and weather are withering away. Many of the volumes could be deciphered with difficulty. These volumes form an excellent source material for the history of the times.

As a sister volume of the revised gazetteer for the district it has been decided to bring out if possible a volume of the digest of the more important old correspondence with write-ups.

A volume for the old correspondence of Saran district has already been published. There will be a similar publication for Gaya. The old correspondence volumes in Hazaribagh Record Room many of which were found in a decayed condition were studied and a digest was prepared. Many of the letters have been produced here in extenso. Some of the relevant records in National Archives, New Delhi, were studied. The materials in this book have been utilised to some extent in the revised Gazetteer for Hazaribagh district. But it was felt that for more detailed research many of these letters will be found useful and they should be separately published.

Sri Krishna Ballabh Sahay, who was the Minister for Revenue had taken a great interest in the matter of revision of the Gazetteers and compilation of such digests of old correspondence. The manuscript of this book was gone through at Hazaribagh last year by Sri Radha Govinda Prasad, M.L.C., now Deputy Minister for Revenue. He gave some valuable suggestions which have been implemented. It was decided to include the chapter of History from the revised district Gazetteer of Hazaribagh in this book.

It is expected that if the series of such volumes for all the districts in the State are completed they would form not only an excellent companion for the new series of the District Gazetteers and the State volumes of Gazetteer for Bihar but would also be a source of research for the future historians.

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PATNA
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HAZARIBAGH OLD RECORDS

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CHAPTER I. HISTORY

The district of Hazaribagh has been named after the town of Hazaribagh, its present headquarters, which has in turn derived its name from the mango grove at Hazari, one of the villages which make up the town. This village is still on the western edge of the town.¹ In the earliest maps of the district published in 1779 by Major James Rennell, the first Surveyor General of India, the present town appears as Ocunhazari. It owes its existence to the raising of the Ramgarh Battalion about 1780, and the decision to station it permanently near the villages of Okni and Hazari, on the road from Chatra to Ichak, which had become an important place after the Raja of Ramgarh had made it his capital in 1772².

The district forms the north-eastern portion of the present Chotanagpur Division which, it is generally believed, was in very early times covered with inaccessible hills and forests to which many non-Aryan tribes who refused to surrender to the steadily advancing Aryans, retired at different times. We do not know the name by which the tract was known to the ancient Aryans. All through the long centuries of Hindu rule in India Chotanagpur appears to have remained unmolested, though foreign invaders on rare occasions might have succeeded in exercising nominal overlordship over it. It might have acknowledged for the first time the suzerainty of the great Asura Maharaja, Jarasandha, who is described by the Epic writers as a highly powerful effulgent and preserving Lord Paramount, like the sun, he robbed all other kings of their splendour and obtained the suzerainty of the whole world. It is just possible that Mahapadma Nand Ugrasena of Magadha, who waged several wars against the Kshattriyas, ultimately conquered the whole of Eastern India including Kalinga and proclaimed himself *Ekrat* or sole monarch. It is stated that during Asoka (C 273-C 232 B. C.) the Atavi or Forest States too acknowledged Magadha supremacy, and this may justify the conclusion that Chotanagpur was included in the Mauryan empire at least in his reign.

There are clear evidence to show that this tract was in touch with many of the parts of India. There was frequent intercourse between Kashi and Hazaribagh. Parsvanath the 23rd. Jaina *Tirthankara*, attained *Nirvana*

at the summit of the Parsvanath Hill in the Hazaribagh district probably in the 8th century B. C.³ After the downfall of the Imperial Mauryas in 185 B. C. King Kharavela of Kalinga led his army across Chotanagpur and sacked Rajgir and Patliputra. Samudra Gupta (C.335-C.380 AD) also must have passed through Chotanagpur when he led his expedition to the Eastern Deccan.⁴ The invader (Samudra Gupta) "marching due south from the capital through Chutia Nagpur, directed the first attack against the kingdom of South Kosala in the valley of the Mahanadi."⁵ Itsing, the Chinese traveller, who reached Tamluk in 673 A. D. traversed the uplands of Chutia Nagpur to reach Nalanda and Bodh Gaya.⁶

The various Non-Aryan tribes that had settled in Chotanagpur had no kings in the beginning. They were under patriarchs. In course of time as their number increased and as there were regular wars against foreigners, they decided to elect one of their chiefs as king. Most scholars think that kingship in Chotanagpur began after the fall of the Imperial Guptas in the 5th century A.D. The family chronicle of the Chotanagpur Raj published in Hindi verse and the traditions of the Mundas agree in stating that the latter voluntarily superseded the son of their own patriarch Madra Munda of Sutiambe (in Ranchi district), in favour of Madra's foster-son, Phani Mukut, in consideration of his superior intelligence and elected him as their king. Phani Mukut, just after his birth, had been found by the side of a tank under the protection of a huge *Nag* or serpent. For this reason, his descendants later on called themselves as Nagbanshi or members of the Naga dynasty.

The name 'Nagpur' is probably taken from the Nagbanshis who ruled the country, 'Chota' is a corruption of Chutia, a village on the outskirts of Ranchi where the remains of the old fort of the Nagbanshi Rajas can still be seen. It was one of their earliest capitals. Even in the beginning of the present century this tract was known as Chutia Nagpur. The name 'Chutia' has now been changed into 'Chota' probably for the sake of convenience. According to the late Mr. S.C. Roy, "the name Chotanagpur is one of comparatively recent origin and appears to have been first coined by the early British administrators of the country to distinguish it from the other Nagpur possessed by the Marhathas."⁷

To the Muhammadan historians the whole of Chotanagpur was in the tract which they knew as Jharkhand or forest country. It appears to have remained practically independent throughout the Turko-Afghan Rule (1206-1526 A.D.) in India. The Delhi Sultans generally attempted to conquer the accessible parts and stationed their governors and garri-

sons in cities and strategic centres. The fortress of Rohtas was the farthest limit of actual penetration made by them towards it. Tarikh-i-Firuz Shahi of Shams-i-Siraj Afif tells us that Sultan Firuz Shah Tuglaq, after his second campaign against Bengal (1359-1360 A.D.), marched from Jaunpur against the Rai of Jajnagar (modern Orissa) and after making peace with him, returned by some route through Jharkhand.⁸ From the seventeenth Canto of Sri Chaitanya Charitamrita we learn that the great Shri Chaitanya Vaisnav reformer and devotee of Nadia in Bengal (1485 A. D.) on his way to Mathura in the second decade of the 16th century A.D. passed through Jharkhand and made conversions among the aboriginal population. It is also said that Sher Shah passed through Jharkhand while returning from his second attack on Gaur in Bengal in 1538 A.D. Professor Quanungo mentions that "Sher Shah threaded his way to Rohtas through the jungles of Jharkhand as best he could."⁹

The accession of Akbar to the throne of Delhi in 1556 A. D. opens a new chapter in the history of Chotanagpur or Jharkhand. To the Mughals it was also known as Kukrah. It excited the cupidity of the Mughal Emperors by reasons of the report of the diamonds to be found in its rivers.* The late Professor Blochmann gave extracts from two Persian works, the 'Akbar Namah' and the 'Tuzuk-i-Jhangiri' in an article in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal for 1871 as quoted by Mr. S. C. Roy, in his 'Mundas and their country' p. 151 show that Kukrah remained independent of Muslim suzerainty till about the thirtieth year of the reign of Emperor Akbar. In 1585 A.D. Akbar sent an expedition commanded by Shahabaz Khan Turbati who reduced the Raja of Chotanagpur to the position of a tributary. In 1591 A. D. this Raja took part in the Mughal expedition to Orissa. During this second campaign against the rebellious Afghan chiefs of Orissa in 1591-92 A.D. Man Singh, then Akbar's Viceroy of Bengal and Bihar, set out from Rohtasgarh and ordered all the Bihar troops to proceed "by the western road called the Jarcund route, to Midnapore,"¹⁰ while he himself went by the usual way down the Ganges. It is mentioned in the Ain-i-Akbari that Chotanagpur or Kukrah was included in the Subah of Bihar.

In 1616 A. D. Ibrahim Khan Fateh Jang, the brother of Queen Noorjahan and the then Governor of Bihar, under Jahangir, invaded Kukrah which had, it seems, regained independence during the disturbances that followed the death of Akbar in 1605 A. D., defeated and captured Durjan Sal, the 46th Raja of Chotanagpur who was deprived

* It is an old tradition that Kohinoor diamond was found in river Koil. [P. C. R. C.]

of all his riches and later on, imprisoned in the fort of Gwalior for twelve years, at the end of which his success in distinguishing a real from a false diamond was rewarded with his release and restoration to his former dignity. The annual tribute to be paid by him was fixed at Rs. 6,000/-. In 1632 A. D. Chotanagpur was given out as a jagir to the Governor at Patna in return for an annual payment of Rs. 1,36,000/-. This was raised to Rs. 1,61,000/- in 1636 A. D.

In the reign of Muhammad Shah, (1719-1748 A. D.), in 1724 A. D., Sarbuland Khan, the Governor of Bihar, marched against the Raja of Chotanagpur and without a struggle, obtained his submission and he returned with a huge amount in cash and diamonds. Tribute was afterwards withheld, and in 1731 A. D. Fakhrud Dowlah, the then Governor of Bihar, came with a large army. He met with a considerable resistance, and was glad to compromise his claims by receiving Rs. 12,000/- from the Raja of Ramgarh who owed allegiance to the Raja of Chotanagpur. In 1735 A. D., Aliverdi Khan with some difficulty enforced this payment and it was continued afterwards till the British occupied the country.¹¹

During the Muhammadan period, Ramgarh, Kunda, Kendi, Chai and Kharagdiha were the chief states in the area now known as the Hazaribagh district. The founder of the Ramgarh Raj was one Bagdeo Singh who along with his elder brother, Singdeo Singh, were in the service of the Raja of Chotanagpur. In course of time, they quarrelled with their lord and with a body of adventurers came to pargana Karanpura (i.e. thana Barkagaon), defeated the local Raja, one Kapper Deo and took possession of the said pargana. They gradually conquered over twenty one other parganas. Bagdeo Singh became their Raja at about 1368 A. D. with Sisia as capital. It was later on transferred to Urda, then to Badam and then to Ramgarh. Hemat Singh, the sixth Raja of the dynasty, invited a mason from Patna to build a fortified residence at Badam. His residence still stands in partial ruin at Badam. The doorway has an inscription that it was built for him in 1642 A. D. by a Patna builder. In the neighbourhood is Mahudi Hill which contains some sandstone caves which were excavated for Hindu ascetics. One of them was made at about 1660 A. D. It was probably due to the inconvenient proximity of Badam to the route by which the Muhammadans reached Chotanagpur, that the capital was transferred from there to Ramgarh, thirty miles east in 1670 A. D.

The Kunda estate was founded by one Ram Singh, a personal servant of the Emperor Aurangzeb. In 1669 A. D. he was granted a thanadari jagir by Daud Khan and Mangal Khan, subordinates of a subordinate of

that emperor, "for the care and guarding of the roads".¹² He was compelled to take a sanad from them 'to guard the four passes of Babaltar, Pinjri, Banwadiah and Nagdarra from the inroads of the Marathas, Bargis and Pindaris'.

The early history of Kendi and Chai is not known. At about 1770 A. D. the former was reduced by the Muhammadans to the position of a zamindari. Chai was subjugated by Makund Singh of Ramgarh about 1770 A.D. and was partitioned among five chieftains of whom apparently four paid tribute to the fifth, Raja Lal Khan of Jagodih.

It is said that Kharagdiha was founded in the 15th century A. D. by one Hansraj Bhut Deo who came from Southern India, expelled a Raja of the Bandawat caste, and conquered for himself a kingdom in Gaya and Hazaribagh, 600 miles long. The family intermarried with the Babhan zamindars of North Bihar. Direct interference by the Muhammadans in its internal affairs is not heard of prior to 1765 A.D. in which year Akbar Ali Khan, a son of Kamgar Khan, zamindar of Narhat Samai in eastern Gaya, carried the attack on Raja Mod Narayan Deo into his last possessions in Hazaribagh district and expelled him from Kharagdiha. Mod Narayan and his son died in exile at Ramgarh, but in 1774 A. D. his grandson, Girwar Narayan Deo, assisted the British in expelling Akbar Ali Khan.

The Raja of Ramgarh proved hostile to Alivardi Khan, Subadar of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. In 1740 A. D., the latter sent a special expedition under the command of Hidayat Ali Khan, the father of Ghulam Hussain, the Patna historian and author of *Siyar-ul-mutakherin* to bring the refractory Raja of the jungly district of Ramgarh under subjection. Hidayat Ali Khan, with the co-operation of Raja Sundar Singh and Raja Jaikisan Singh, both zamindars of Palamau, and the zamindars of Seres, Cotomba and Sherghati, brought under subjection the powerful Hindu Raja of Ramgarh.

The year 1765 A. D. opens a fresh chapter in the history of Chotanagpur. On 12th August, 1765, Emperor Shah Alam II granted the Dewani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the British East India Company. As Chotanagpur formed a part of Bihar, the company now got the right to receive the tribute of Ramgarh, the land revenue of Kharagdiha and Kendi and the services of Kunda.

The actual exercise of the authority by the British, however, began some time later. It seems that the British authorities at Calcutta were, in the beginning not inclined to take any immediate and strong measures against the different Rajas of Chotanagpur, although they were creating disturbance in matters of revenue collection. The letter of the

4th August, 1769 A. D. from Mr. T. Rumbold of Patna to the President and Governor at Calcutta clearly indicates that the latter had issued strict orders not to make any attempt in Ramgarh and Palamau (Select Committee 1769, page 432). It was only in 1769 A.D. that the British first came into contact with the district. In that year, a British Officer of the name of Captain Camac, appeared to establish some sort of order in the "Junglebury district" which was the name of Hazaribagh. The revival of the Maratha power under Madho Rao (1761-1762) once more threatened both Bihar and Bengal. The Marathas had, in the past, made Chotanagpur and specially Ramgarh, as one of their bases of invasion on Bihar and Bengal. The British realised this fact and they now seriously considered the question of bringing the different Rajas of Chotanagpur under control.

Captain Camac first subdued the Rajas of Kharagdiha and Kunda. In 1771 he was made Military Collector of Ramgarh district which included Nagpur and Palamau and Chakye as well as the present district of Hazaribagh and had his headquarters at Chatra.¹⁸ Next year, he appeared at Kunda on his way to Palamau. Raja Dhrij Narayan Singh of Kunda, the fourth in succession from Ram Singh with whom Daud Khan and Mangal Khan, the two officers of Auranagzeb, had made a settlement, rendered valuable service to the British in the Palamau campaign and in return, Capt. Camac renewed the old agreement according to which Kunda was exempted from paying the land revenue.

The Raja of Ramgarh in those days was Mukund Singh whose behaviour was unpalatable to the new masters, who ultimately decided that either he should give proper security for his future good behaviour and for the payment of a sum of money yearly to the Government or he should be reduced to submission and obedience. In its letter of the 16th September, 1771 A. D. addressed to the Hon. John Cartier, President and Government at Calcutta, the Council of Revenue at Patna, while transmitting copies of three letters from Captain Camac and translation of Persian accounts of Nagpur, Ramgarh and others and complaining of the conduct of Mukund Singh, expressed that 'Mukund Singh the present Ramgarh Raja has always been very deficient in the payment of his revenue and endeavoured as much as possible to maintain an independence on the Government, and his troops have frequently infested the neighbouring parganas with incursions, if he would give proper security for his future good behaviour and for the payment of a revenue of 20,000 or 30,000 sonaut rupees a year to the Government, it might perhaps be advisable to leave him undisturbed. But if not, we apprehend it would be proper to deprive him of the territories he

usurped from Nurrut Samoy and Sherghatty and bring him under subjection, which at this juncture we believe Captain Camac would easily effect and we imagine that these measures would be in any case of Maratha troubles contribute much to the security of the south-east side of this province and of Bauglepore and Berdwan in the Bengal Province.' (O. C. 3rd January, 1772, No. 6 (a)-p. 16-17).

In his letter (O. C. 3rd January 1772, No. 9) Captain Camac, the Military Collector of Ramgarh, pointed out to the Chief and Comptrolling Council of Revenue at Patna, the vulnerability of the territory of Ramghur, the Raja's unpopularity and his past conduct in opposing Palamau expedition. Regarding the latter he wrote that "there he not openly assisted the enemy with men and money but had the temerity to cut off the *Harcarrah* who carried the Government's Perwanahs..... He gave passages and protection to a French man with ten or twelve followers who was going from the Dekkan up the country notwithstanding I repeatedly wrote him to send him to me... ..the greatest merit with the Raja was his declaring himself an enemy to the English". Captain Camac was convinced that the Raja would make trouble in Palamau and destroy the garrison there and "oblige to abandon that conquest."

During the operations in Palamau Raja Durpnath Shahi of Chotanagpur visited Captain Camac and gave some useful service, whilst on the other hand Raja Mukund Singh of Ramgarh had intrigued to thwart him. Consequently the Raja of Chotanagpur had no difficulty in persuading the Provincial Council at Patna to terminate the arrangement whereby his tribute was being paid through the Raja of Ramgarh. The British were dissatisfied with the latter and soon an action was taken against him. There was a quarrel between Mukund Singh and Tej Singh, a descendant of Singdeo Singh, over the question of succession and the British supported Tej Singh. Lt. Goddard attacked Ramgarh; Mukund Singh fled and Tej Singh was installed, not at first as Raja but as *mustajir* and the revenue was fixed at Rs. 30,000/-, to which in 1777 A. D. a nazrana of Rs. 10,000/- was added. He made Ichak his capital in 1772.

In 1780 Captain Camac was succeeded by Mr. Chapman, who was the first civilian administrator of Chotanagpur. The 'conquered provinces' as they were called, were formed into a British district, which included Ramgarh, Kendi, Kunda and Kharagdiha (which together constitute the present Hazaribagh), the whole of Palamau, Chakai on the east of Kharagdiha and Pachet on the east of Ramgarh, and the area round Sherghati. The present district of Ranchi was added under

the designation of the Tributary Māhal of Chota Nagpur. Mr. Chapman who combined in himself the functions of a Judge, a Magistrate and a Collector of Revenue, held his court alternately at Sherghati (now in the Gaya district) and Chatra (now in the Hazaribagh district) and his authority was enforced by a newly formed native infantry called the Ramgarh Battalion under an European Commander and stationed at Hazaribagh.

In the beginning, the Bengal Regulations were in force in this unwieldy district which covered an area of about 18000 sq. miles, without any consideration for the widely different conditions of these parts from that of Bengal. Appeals from the civil and criminal judgements of the District Officer lay to the Governor General and in revenue matters his work was supervised by a Committee of Revenue in Calcutta. In 1793 A. D. civil and criminal appeals were transferred to a Provincial Court of Appeal in Patna. In 1800 A. D. the Collectorship of Ramgarh was abolished and the Board of Revenue, by their letter of the 15th April, 1800 to the Collector of Bihar, informed him that the Ramgarh Collectorship was annexed to his district. It appears that the great social reformer and the founder of the Brahmo Samaj Raja Rammohan Roy was in Ramgarh in 1805-6. He went there with Mr. William Digby who was then acting Magistrate and Registrar of Ramgarh. Raja Rammohan Roy was the *Sheristedar* of the Collectorate and lived both at Chatra and Ramgarh in this capacity. When Mr. William Digby was transferred elsewhere he took Ram Mohan Roy with him to his new place of work.

It appears that the first phase of British administration of this area proved somewhat a failure. There was only one officer with diverse functions to look after a huge district. A letter written by Captain Roughsedge, commanding the Ramgarh Battalion, to Mr. C. T. Sealy, Magistrate of Ramgarh in May, 1809 A.D. gives a vivid picture of the state of the district in those early days and of the difficulty in enforcing law and orders. He writes that 'scarcely an individual in the whole country has remained unchargeable with some act of arbitrary violence, the origin of which is to be found in the notion, only now destroyed, of peculiar privileges and exemption from the usual course of justice'.

The unrest in the district was also due to the fact that the administration had been applied unscrupulously over an unwieldy extent of country by officials who had the scantiest knowledge of the people with whom they were dealing. With foreigners from Bengal and Bihar, unacquainted with the customs, land tenure, and the languages or dialects of the people in all the subordinate Government posts and with

alien landlords almost supreme in the villages, the British rule was made particularly distasteful to the aboriginal races. In 1789 A.D. there was an insurrection in Tamar which was suppressed by Lieutenant Cooper. In 1811 A.D. there was a rising of the Mundas and Uraons in Chota Nagpur and six years later, it had to be brought under the direct administration of the East India Company as part of the Ramgarh district.¹⁴ In 1820 A.D. another rising in Tamar was put down by Major Roughsedge with the help of the Ramgarh Battalion.

In 1831 A.D. there was a more formidable rising which is known as Kol rising. It did not seriously affect Hazaribagh. In his letter of the 13th June, 1832, the Secretary to the Governor General advised the Government at Fort William to carry out the policy with great caution to avoid disturbances, sanctioned an increase in the Ramgarh Battalion by one thousand men and 200 irregular horses and also suggested to obtain the opinion of the local agent on the expediency of recruiting from the natives of that part of the country who were also to be accustomed to that climate (Foreign Consultation, 2nd July, No. 10-12).

The Kol rising was eventually suppressed but it ushered in a new epoch in the administration of the country. The administrative system was entirely changed. By Regulation XIII of 1833 A.D. the Parganas of Ramgarh, Kharagdiha, Kendi and Kunda, which comprise the present area of the district, became part of the South-West Frontier Agency and were formed into a division under the name of Hazaribagh. Hazaribagh was made the administrative headquarters. The Chief Executive Officer at Hazaribagh was now styled the Principal Assistant to the Governor General's Agent who was in charge of the districts of Ramgarh and the Jungle Mahals with the estates of Dhalbhum till then included in Midnapore.

The Ramgarh Battalion at Hazaribagh was enlarged. A letter dated the 16th July, 1832, from Fort William, Calcutta, asked Captain Wilkinson, Officiating Political Agent, South-West Frontier, to recruit the number of men required to complete the Battalion at Ramgarh, Gaya and Bhagalpur (Foreign, 1832, 16th July, p-58). There is evidence to show that the Battalion of Ramgarh occasionally visited Sambalpur area too. Captain Wilkinson, Commander, the Ramgarh Battalion, Camp, Sambalpur, informed the Calcutta authorities on the 21st October, 1833, that the Battalion would move out on the 22nd October, 1833, from there and commence marching towards Hazaribagh under Lt. Higgan, leaving one Naik and twelve sepoy for the protection of the treasury and the post office (Foreign 1833, consultation 15th Nov. No. 69).

From the creation of the Agency the ordinary laws for the sale of land for debt or arrears of rent were regarded as inapplicable to the Province and the rules proposed by Captain Wilkinson (the Agent) provided that no sale or alienation, or even mortgage of hereditary or immovable property was to take place without the sanction of the Agent. In criminal and civil justice the Principal Assistant was guided by Regulation XIII issued in 1833 A.D. It is stated that the police was brought partially under the control of the Government and in 1837 A.D. the district was divided into twelve thanas, in four of which the police were appointed and paid by Government. In Hazaribagh the cost was divided. The old English Correspondence Volumes in Hazaribagh Collectorate show that the four Government thanas in 1837 A.D. were Chatra, Kanha Chatti, Sirampur and Kharagdiha and the remainder consisted of zamindari thanas at Gawan, Kodarma, Hazaribagh, Ramgarh, Pagar, Hunterganj, Itkhor and Chatra. In 1838 A.D. the new Grand Trunk Road was opened and the old Benaras Road was closed down. The Chatra thana was moved south-east to Gumia and Kanha Chatti was closed, new thanas being opened at Barhi and Bagodar on the new road.

The Rushton's Gazetteer, published in 1841 A.D. mentions that Hazaribagh had European Regiment with two Companies of the native infantry. The tour diaries of Captain Simpson (1852-53 A.D.) found in the old English Correspondence volumes maintained in the Hazaribagh Record Room show that Hazaribagh had ceased to be Military station and this had led to the deterioration of some of the roads. The incidence of dacoity on the Grand Trunk Road and some other roads was very high. The Grand Trunk Road played a very important role and a Magistrate was posted at Burhee to control crime. There were bullock-cart trains run by the Government. After some road dacoities had been committed, these bullock-cart trains used to be protected by Sowars with open swords. Simpson's memoirs also indicate that two types of police thanas existed in Hazaribagh—one run by the Government and the other set run by the zamindars. Chuttra, Simpson describes as a city in 1853 A. D. with about twenty thousand population.

In 1853 A. D. Reverend Henry Batson of the Gossner Mission at Ranchi came to Hazaribagh to preach the Christian Gospel among the Santals. He built a station at Singhani on the Hazaribagh Bagodar road which has remained till this day the headquarters of the Gossner Mission (Gossner Church since 1919 in this district).

In 1854-55 Mr. Henry Ricketts, a Member of the Board of Revenue, made an inspection tour through Chotanagpur and submitted a report.

From this report it appears that the area of the Hazaribagh district was 12,444 sq. miles with a population of 6,67,585 souls. More than half of the district was held by the Raja of Ramgarh. The criminal justice was administered by the Court of the Principal Assistant at Hazaribagh, the Court of the Deputy Magistrate at Burhee on the Grand Trunk Road and the Court of the Principal Sadar Amin at Gola. The Civil Justice was administered by the Principal Assistant at Hazaribagh, Principal Sadar Amin at Gola and three Munsifs at Hazaribagh, Chuttra and Kharagdiha. The district had five Government thanas at Chuttra, Burhee, Kharagdiha, Gola and Bagodar. Seven of the zamindari thanas were in the zamindari of the Raja of Ramgarh. The Deputy Magistrate at Burhee controlled the five Government thanas. Incidence of crime was generally high and higher in the zamindari thanas.

As a result of the report of Mr. Ricketts a further change was introduced in administration. By Act XX of 1854, the designation of the South-West Frontier Agency was changed to Chutia (Chota) Nagpur and it began to be administered as a non-regulation province under the Lt. Governor of Bengal. At the same time the title of the Chief Executive Officer was changed from Governor General's Agent to Commissioner.

In 1855-56 there was fierce rising of the Santals against the British administration. The leaders were Lubia Manjhi, Bairu Manjhi and Arjun Manjhi. Their insurrection in Hazaribagh was connected with the Santal Rising of 1855-57 A.D. in the Bhagalpur Division. The rising was cruelly suppressed and Santal villages were burnt, Santals chased from jungle to jungle and imprisoned. Even Santal women were put to imprisonment. The bow and arrow of the Santals were no match to the guns of the British Army.

More significant than the Santal Rising was the uprising commonly known as the "Movement of 1857-59". The Ramgarh Battalion consisting of the two companies of the 8th Native Infantry at Hazaribagh decided on the 30th July to start mutiny from the evening of the following day. Captain Simpson, the Deputy Commissioner, got the news of the actual hour fixed for the outbreak from one of his servants. The only safety lay in immediate flight. Captain Simpson, Dr. Dalpratt and Mr. Liebart of Sitagarha hastily set-out on foot across the forest towards Ichak which they reached at nightfall. They were hospitably received by the Brahmans of a monastery. They were supplied with horses and after a few hours' rest, they set out for Bagodar.

When the news of the impending outbreak reached Ranchi, Captain Dalton, the Commissioner, at once sent Lt. Graham with a detachment of Ramgarh Light Infantry, some cavalry and two guns to disarm the regiments at Hazaribagh. On the way his own infantry mutinied and hurried back to Ranchi to join the Hazaribagh mutineers who were proceeding to Ranchi by Old Ranchi Road via Badam.

Captain Dalton realised that it was impossible to defend Ranchi and ordered an immediate withdrawal of all the Europeans at Ranchi to Hazaribagh and from there to Bagodar. For a few weeks the remnant of administration ran from Bagodar. Mr. J.S. Davies, Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardaga Division, took the temporary charge of Hazaribagh Division on the 4th August, 1857, and on the 7th August, he informed Captain Dalton that on the 31st July, there was the mutiny of the troops at Hazaribagh and the mutineers were proceeding to Ranchi. Mr. Davies found the treasury quite empty and the records partially destroyed. The insurrectionists had carried away with them the treasure. They had also looted the dispensary of the Penitentiary Jail and had carried off both the Doctors and nearly all the medicines. The prisoners had escaped. Dalton, however, reoccupied Hazaribagh with the help of Rattary's Sikhs and restored order there.

The insurrectionists did not receive much support in Hazaribagh and very little at Ranchi. They stayed in Ranchi for over a month and then set out towards the north to join Kunwar Singh of Shahabad district. While they were at Chatra, they were attacked and defeated on the 2nd October, 1857, by Major English. Their guns and munitions were captured. 150 of the mutineers were killed and the rest fled towards Sherghati and dispersed. This victory at Chatra really crushed the movement in Hazaribagh district.

The Santals, who had been ruthlessly suppressed in 1855-56 took the opportunity to rise again against the Government. They were very much encouraged by the weakening of British authority. In a letter no. 50, dated the 17th September, 1857, Simpson informed Commissioner Dalton that armed Santals had come into a clash with a detachment of 76 Sikhs including 10 men of the Ramgarh Battalion. One Rupu Manjhi was the leader of the Santals. His house was burnt and a reward of Rs. 100/- declared for his capture. The Raja of Ramgarh asked for a detachment of troops to be stationed at Gomia and Ramgarh. Without much difficulty the Santal risings were put down. No special reconciliatory measures, however, were taken to prevent their recurrence. It was decided to raise a levy on Kols and

Santals for military police in Hazaribagh and a body of 500 of them was enlisted for this work.

The disturbance that accompanied the insurrections was utilised by the dispossessed Bhuyan Tikaits who considered the opportunity useful for recovering their lands from the purchasers and occupying them. They received some support from their tenantry.

The rise in 1857 again brought in some change in the administration. The complete character of non-regulation in this area was partially changed by the extension of the Criminal Procedure Code Act (Act XXV of 1861) to Hazaribagh district along with the other districts of the Chotanagpur Division. But the set up of the administration for Civil Justice continued in the hands of the Agent who had his Regulations till June 15, 1859, when the Civil Procedure Code was extended with a provision that "no sales of immovable property shall take place without the sanction of the Commissioner."

A brief mention could be made of the other important matters of the time as gathered by a study of the Old English Correspondence Volumes of the nineteenth century maintained in the Record Room of Hazaribagh Collectorate. The practice of 'Churruck' appears to have been prevalent in the Hazaribagh district. People used to take the vow that if they would obtain some desired object they would swing under 'Churruck' for a certain number of years. Hazaribagh sent quantities of iron ore and mica to the French Exhibition in 1855. For a rupee 1,000 *poolas* of straw and 400 bamboos could be obtained. Carpenters and Masons were paid -/2/- per day as wages. *Gharamis* or ordinary labourers were available for -/1/11 pies per day. At Sitagarha near Hazaribagh one Mr. Liebert, a German, was growing coffee in 1857. One Mr. Wheeler, a pensioner from the Artillery who had settled at Hazaribagh also cultivated coffee in the district. Both Mr. Liebert and Mr. Wheeler suffered a lot in the hands of the mutineers in 1857 by the burning of their properties. The mutineers did not spare the German Mission at Singhani.

The Simpson tank and Rattray House in Hazaribagh Town have remained as reminiscences of the insurrections. The old Rattray House is the present Law College on Barhi Hazaribagh Road near the Hazaribagh Courts. The old Simpson tank is just opposite to it. There is a graveyard in Chatra where are buried the Europeans who were killed in the encounter between the mutineers and the troops led by Major English. There are also graves of some of the soldiers by the Grand Trunk Road at various places. Simpson owned a house in Hazaribagh Town which still exists.

After the movement of 1857-59 the district remained on the whole quiet. In 1861 the Police powers of the zamindars were abolished and by 1861 the established thanas were at Hazaribagh, Itkhori, Pagar, Ramgarh, Kasmar, Gumia, Hunterganj, Barhi, Bagodar, Sirampur, Kharagdiha, Gawan and Kodarma. Municipalities were established at Hazaribagh and Chatra on 1st April, 1869. Next year, the Giridih subdivision was formed with Karharbari as its headquarters. In 1871 it was removed to Pachamba and finally in 1881 to Giridih. The first railway lines in the district were built in 1871 from Madhupur on the Chord Line to Giridih for the convenience of the Railways colliery there.

Sir George Campbell, the Lt. Governor of Bengal (1871-74) had a fascination for Hazaribagh. The present circuit house was built for his use and the road from Bagodar to Hazaribagh was made for his tours. It was during his time in 1874 that the Viceroy, Lord Northbrook, came to Hazaribagh and then to Ranchi. The journey was accomplished from Giridih partly on horseback, partly by *palki* and partly in carriages.

On December 12, 1912, Bihar, Orissa and Chotanagpur were separated from Bengal by a Royal Proclamation to form a separate province under a Lt. Governor-in-Council. In November, 1914, the Chatra subdivision consisting of the thanas Simaria, Chatra, Huntergunj and Chauparan was formed with Chatra as its headquarters. Orissa was separated in 1935.

With the end of the First World War (1914-18) began the present phase of political life in the district. It appears that there was not much of political life in the district before 1920. There was some unrest among students who had organised the Bihari Students' Association with its centre of activities at Patna. The Non-Co-operation Movement started by Gandhiji in 1920 profoundly affected this district too. A number of students gave up their studies and threw themselves in the movement. A few lawyers suspended their practice to join the movement. The District Congress Committee was formed.

The movement went on with greater momentum in 1921. Shri Rajendra Prasad, now President of the Indian Republic, visited this district and addressed meetings at Chatra and Hazaribagh. There was a riot at Giridih which was suppressed immediately by the police. There was also an attempt to boycott local schools. National schools were set up at Chatra, Hazaribagh, and Dhanwar. These new schools, however, collapsed due to financial strain.

After the tragedy of Chauri Chaura, early in 1922, there occurred a split in the All-India Congress Organisation and a party known as the Swaraj Party was formed under Shri C. R. Das and Shri Motilal Nehru

to contest elections. It had its repercussion on this district as well. In 1923, there was the election for the Provincial Legislative Council and Shri K. B. Sahay the Swaraj Party candidate, was elected from this district, by an overwhelming majority.

The Congress came to be the only effective political party in the district. It captured the District Board. In 1925, Mahatma Gandhi visited Hazaribagh for the first time. His visit followed by the visits of other leaders gave a great support to the Congress movement.

In 1930 the Civil Disobedience Movement gained a new momentum in the district. The Government took stern measures against it. Meetings and processions were forcibly dispersed. Congress leaders were bound down u/s 108 I.P.C. for one year. A number of leading Congressmen were convicted.

The movement was joined by the Santals under Shri Bangam Manjhi of village Boroberra, P. S. Gomiyan. He claimed to have some supernatural power and he became a sort of religio-political leader of the Santals of P. S. Mandu, Ramgarh, Bagodar and Gomia. The Government apprehended in this movement the seeds of another Santal rising and made a number of arrests with the result that the movement declined. Most of the Congress leaders of Bihar were lodged in 1930 in the Hazaribagh Central Jail. Mahatma Gandhi came to Hazaribagh again in 1932 in connection with the Harijan Movement and visited certain rural areas of the district.

According to the Government of India Act, 1935, the Chotanagpur Division and the district of Santal Parganas were declared a 'Partially Excluded Area.' In the election to the Central and Provincial Legislatures in 1937 in the district the Congress Party swept the polls. One of its representatives, Shri Krishna Ballav Sahay, was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the new Government of Bihar. There was an election of the District Board also in 1938. It resulted in the victory of the Congress Party and for the first time in 1939 a non-official Chairman was elected.

In March 1940, the Indian National Congress held its 53rd session at Ramgarh under the Presidentship of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Side by side with the Congress Session was the Anti-Compromise Conference with Shri Subash Chandra Bose as President. There was a heavy rain and the sessions had to be cut short. Ramgarh saw the rise of the All India Forward Block with Shri Subash Chandra Bose as President and the Radical Democratic Party under Shri M. N. Roy.

Individual Satyagraha was organised in this district also. Then came the 1942 Movement. Kodarma railway station was set on fire and

firing had to be taken recourse to. This resulted in one death and several injuries. An attempt was made to burn the local District Record Room. In Hazaribagh and other parts of the district students took part in organising processions and in tampering with telephone and telegraph connections. This resulted in several arrests and imprisonments. One of the most significant events of the year was the escape of Shri Jai Prakash Narayan and seven others from the Hazaribagh Central Jail where most of the important Congress leaders of Bihar were lodged, on the *Diwali* night. All efforts for their detection failed.

In the post war election to the Provincial Legislature the Congress Party won all the seats in the district and Shri Krishna Ballav Sahay, an elected member, was included in the Bihar Cabinet as a Minister of Revenue and Forest. Soon after, the Bihar Protected Forest Act of 1946 was enacted and extended to this district. This was followed by an agitation sponsored by the Raja of Ramgarh and some other landlords of the district. This agitation had led to the formation of a political party known as the Kisan Forward Block with Shri Kamakshya Narayan Singh, the Raja of Ramgarh (Padma), as the leader. It opposed the Congress Party in the District Board election of 1947. The party is known as the Janata Party.

In the latter part of 1946 and in the early part of 1947, several agrarian troubles took place in the Santal areas of the district. The Santal Manjhis claimed that they were the first settlers of the land and that the local zamindars and mahajans by dishonest means had appropriated their lands. Several paddy cutting cases took place in villages Tulbul, Siari, Hardiamo and Jala. Quick administrative measures had brought the situation under control.

The transference of power under the Indian Independence Act of August 15, 1947, and the enforcement of the new constitution on January 26, 1950, have changed the character of the administration of the district. The district of Hazaribagh is no longer included within the scheduled area.

One of the events which has created a certain amount of excitement in the district was the abolition of zamindaries after the passing of the Zamindari Abolition Act of 1947 which was ultimately substituted by the Land Reforms Act of 1950. Government have taken over the zamindaries and an elaborate machinery has been set up for this purpose. A very large number of ameliorative measures have been taken up for the prosperity of the common man.

The election to the Central and State Legislatures according to our new constitution was held in the district in January, 1952. There was

a keen contest between the Congress party led by Sri Krishna Ballav Sahay and the Janata Party led by Sri Kamakshya Narayan Singh. While the Congress won all the seats in the Giridih subdivision, the Janata Party had a more successful contest in the Sadar and Chatra subdivisions.

The Damodar Valley Corporation in the recent years with its multi-purpose projects has greatly changed the district. Dams have been constructed at Tilaiya, Konar and Charwa. They are to supply electricity and water for drinking and irrigation and facilitate fish-rearing. There has been erected a huge Thermal Power Station at Bokaro to generate and supply electricity. The Charwa Dam is supplying drinking water to the Hazaribagh Town. The Damodar Valley Corporation have tried to rehabilitate the people of the district who have been displaced by the submerging of their villages and lands. The Damodar Valley Corporation projects also cover flood protection.

Archaeological Remains

The earliest human settlement in the Hazaribagh district is indicated by a palaeolithic tool which was found by Hughes in the Bokharo Coalfield. (V. Ball, Stone implements found in Bengal, *Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 1865, pp. 127-28). It is a boucher made of micaceous quartzite, now kept in the Indian Museum, Calcutta. The scarcity of neolithic implements within the confines of the district while many of these have been noticed in the adjoining regions may perhaps be attributed to the lack of adequate exploration.

The Chalcolithic phase is represented by copper artefacts discovered from two sites. At Bargunda was found a flat copper celt as well as a copper armlet (Robert Burce Foote, *The Foote collection of Indian Prehistoric and Photo-historic Antiquities*, 1914, P. 248). They are now lodged in the Madras Government Museum. Pachamba (Giridih) a sub-division of the district has yielded three flat copper celts, now in the Indian Museum, (J. Coggin Brown, *Catalogue of Prehistoric Antiquities in the Indian Museum*, pp. 140 ff). The date of the copper artefacts is difficult to determine since they were not found in association with any dateable object. So far as typology is concerned it is well to remember that some of these closely resemble the copper plate grants of the historical period (Indian Antiquary, Vol. 1, p. 355, also plate XIV).

There is not a single protected monument in the whole of the Hazaribagh district. This may be ascribed partly to the fact that it was never the seat of a powerful empire and possibly, not many buildings

big and strong enough to survive through ages, had ever been built here. But at the same time it may be mentioned that no systematic exploration has yet been made to assess the character of the existing ruins in the district.

Large dolmens or flat stone slabs planted upright abound in the district ; the exact significance of these are still unknown. There are also other ruins, in the form of dilapidated brick structures, which await exploration. One of such sites, the temple ruins near Itkhorī may belong to the mediaeval period. The site needs exploration.

The remains on Kulua and Parasnath Hills are of comparatively recent date and do not come under the purview of archæology. According to tradition, the former was the birth place of the tenth Jain Tirthankara Sitala Swamin and the latter is associated with the *Nirvana* of the 23rd Tirthankar Parasnath. It may also be mentioned here that a large number of Jain Tirthankars had also obtained their *Nirvana* at Parasnath. The Jain relics at Kulua hill are Digambari.

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[The chapter on History is taken from the revised District Gazetteer of Hazaribagh].

APPENDIX

Report of H. Ricketts, Member of the Board of Revenue. (1855).

*(Selections from the Records of the Bengal Govt. No. XX. Calcutta
Gazette Office, 1855)*

HAZAREEBAUGH

General

The area of the Hazareebaugh District is estimated to be 12,444* square miles, containing a population of 667,585 souls, being on an average 53 to a square mile. Though parts of the District are in a high state of cultivation, one may still travel a whole day's journey in several directions, without seeing a habitation, or a beegah of cleared land, except at the places where travellers usually halt.

2. More than half the District is held by the Rajah of Ramgurh. He pays a jumma of Rupees 28,023-4-1; his estimated rental is Rupees 242,965-2-0. There are but four other Zemindars, who pay above Rupees 1,000 land revenue.

3. The District may be said to be composed of the Ramgurh Estate—

The great Pergunnah of Kurrukdeea, held by Ghatwal and others, a little more than a pepper-corn rent—

Pergunnah Kendy, attached in consequence of the Rajah's encumbrances, with no hope of ever being released—

Koonda, held Lakhraj—

Kudorina, confiscated for felony—

Bagreedee, ditto ditto.

4. The Rajah of Ramgurh and the Tikait of Salgorah have learned to read Hindoostanee in the Persian character; the other proprietors are all ignorant and illiterate, quite wanting in all useful knowledge, and improvident and bad landlords.

5. There are no European Zemindars; Mr. Inman and Mr. Mackenzie have since 1849 been working a coal mine in Pergunnah Kurrukdeea to the North of Hazareebaugh, but the great distance of the mine from water carriage renders the success of the enterprize doubtful

* This is the estimate of the Principal Assistant; the latest maps make the area less by about 1,500 miles, and the estimated area of all the Thannas, added together, is less by 2,000 miles.

Mr. Mackenzie has also endeavoured to work a copper mine in the same locality, but hitherto has made but little progress.

6. No indigo is grown ; sugar-cane and cotton are cultivated in small quantities in scattered localities ; a little safflower and turmeric are produced ; oil-seeds and cotton are exported to the Eastward, and a considerable quantity of rice and ghee is sent to Behar.

7. Iron is found in several parts, and is exported on bullocks to all the Districts round Shahabad, Gaya, Tirhoot &c. Very good coal is procured in several places, but though it is superior to the Burdwan coal, the difficulties connected with transport have hitherto limited its consumption to within a few miles of the places where it is found.

8. Antimony mines at Sidpore, twelve or fourteen miles from Chittra, were worked for some years by Europeans half a century ago, but were abandoned ; lead also is found, and mica, and rock crystal.

9. In a letter dated the 29th October last, the Principal Assistant, in answer to a call from the Accountant, explained the state of the copper currency in this District. He reported, that the Government copper pice are not generally current, but a rude native coinage, called Goruckpooree pice, of which from eighty to eighty-eight are exchanged for a Rupee ; that of the whole copper currency of the District, one-eighth may be Government pice and seven-eighths these Goruckpooree pice ; that in the large Bazars Government pice are usually procurable at the standard of sixty-four for a Rupee. The Principal Assistant represented, that the cause of these Goruckpooree pice being preferred to the Government pice was that the Government pice were "less fractional", and therefore not so well adapted to the wants of the people. Captain Simpson informed the Accountant, that the Goruckpooree pice were introduced from the Behar Districts by traders, and that he saw no means by which the Government pice could be introduced in supercession of the Goruckpooree pice, except by a Government copper coinage as fractional as the Goruckpooree pice and having a similar weight of metal. He further stated, that he was informed the pice were brought into the Behar Districts from Mirzapore, Goruckpore, and Butwal, in the Terrae of Nepal.

10. I found, on actual experiment, that of the Goruckpooree pice eighty-three weighed a seer, the current exchange being eighty-four for a Rupee, while sixty-four Government pice weighed one pice less than seven chittacks, or less than one-half. The Goruckpooree pice are merely square lumps of copper, with no device or inscription whatever, but a Native, when he has his eighty-four Goruckpooree pice, feels that

he has the worth of a Rupee in his possession, whereas the intrinsic value of the sixty-four pice, weighing one pice less than seven chittacks, being something less than half a Rupee, he has no faith in the exchangeable value of his copper, and he has some reason for his doubts. In many parts the Bunyas insist on ignoring the inscription, and will have no dealings without using the scales.

11. By all accounts, the people of these parts are much attached to these copper lumps, and except in the few considerable Bazars, they will take nothing else. A copper currency of pies @, equal to the intrinsic value of the copper within a small percentage, might drive away the Goruckpooree currency, but heavy penalties only would prevent its circulation till such a substitute be provided.

LAND REVENUE.

13. On the fixed Towjee there are eighty-eight Estates, paying Rupees 52,479-11-4 land revenue fixed in perpetuity, and on the fluctuating Towjee fifty-three Mehals, paying Rupees 2,044-6-0, so that the whole land revenue of the District, containing 12,000 square miles, is only Rupees 54,524-1-9, of which Rupees 28,023-4-10 is paid by one Zemindar, the Rajah of Ramgurh.

| | | |
|---|----|-------------------|
| 14. The Summary Suits instituted between 1848-49 and 1852-53, numbered .. | .. | 480 |
| Execution of decree cases | .. | 226 |
| Miscellaneous, .. | .. | 716 |
| | | <hr/> 1,422 <hr/> |

being an average per year of 355. The work in the Revenue Department is light, considering the immense extent of the District and the number of the inhabitants.

15. The Rajah of Ramgurh holds his Territory at a very light jumma fixed in perpetuity. A large portion of the estate is held by Jagheerdars, who pay him a very moderate rent, so that, for the most part, rents are easily collected, without the necessity of application to the Courts.

16. It appearing that sales for arrears of revenue were considered as prohibited, and that on an arrear accruing, the first process was a dustuck, and that if the dustuck was unsuccessful, the personal property of the defaulter was attached and sold. I inquired from the Principal

Assistant, whether there were any orders of the Government, or of the Governor General's Agent prescribing this mode of realizing arrears, how many dustucks had been issued in the years 1852 and 1853, how many attachments had been ordered, and in how many cases the personals had been actually sold.

17. The Assistant reports, that the custom of issuing dustucks for the realization of land revenue has existed since 1834, when it was introduced by the Principal Assistant, Mr. Davidson ; that a list of defaulters is brought forward once a month and dustucks issued ; that no orders of the Agent or the Government are forthcoming ; and that it is probable such may not exist. In the two years, 1852 and 1853, 408 dustucks were issued. In 400 cases, the arrear was recovered either immediately or within a limited period. In eight cases, orders for the attachment of personal property issued, but it was not found necessary in any case actually to proceed to sale.

18. Although as regards the majority of the Mehals of this District, there is no good reason why they should be exempted from the stringent process usual elsewhere, viz., immediate sale should the arrear not be liquidated, nevertheless, as the revenue appears to be collected without loss, and all are so strongly opposed to the introduction of sales, I will not, merely with a view to uniformity of practice recommend a change, but the process to be observed should be carefully digested, embodied in a few concise Rules, and submitted for the approval of the Government.

19. The Assistant, in answer to my inquiries, reported that three Butwara cases had been brought forward in the Revenue Department of his Office during the last ten years ; that all were disallowed and struck off the file ; and that in fact, since the formation of the Agency, no Butwara has been carried into effect; and that the Agent had expressed an opinion, that Ghatwalee Mehals could not be subjected to Butwara. I am no advocate for increasing Butwaras more than is avoidable, but if in cases not coming under Regulation X of 1800, Butwara is not to be allowed, the orders of the Government to that effect should be obtained.

20. I found that the Registers prescribed by the Orders of the Board of Revenue had not been kept up as regularly as they might have been. Several are not applicable to the state of affairs in these Districts, but those applicable, and calculated to be useful, should be carefully prepared. The Registers have lately been revised by the Board, and detailed Orders issued respecting their preparation. The Governor General's Agent should be directed to report which Registers are not

in his opinion suited to the circumstances of the Agency, and, when on circuit, should see that those which may be declared suitable are not neglected.

21. There are no cases under Regulation V of 1812 in the Collector's Office, but it having come to my notice that cases for the sale of attached property were admitted by the Moonsiffs, I called for explanation. The reply I received was on these terms :—"It appears the Moonsiffs of this Division had always been entrusted with cases of attachment under the provisions of Regulation V of 1812, and which are brought forward on the principle set forth in Regulation XVII of 1793. The Moonsiffs appear to have been entrusted with such attachment cases since prior to the abolition of Zillah Ramgurh and proceeded in the same manner on the first formation of the Agency, but no special orders for their doing so are to be found in this Office and may not exist. At first the mode of procedure after attachment was for the defaulter to obtain a certificate of attachment from the Moonsiff and present it to the Principal Assistant in the Revenue branch of his Office, when the case was investigated and disposed of under the provisions of Regulation V of 1812. Since 1841, the Moonsiffs were instructed to receive cases for replevin under the provisions of Regulation VIII of 1831 in the Civil Court and on Stamp paper of the ordinary value."

At the same time, the Principal Assistant sent a statement, showing that in 1852 and 1853, 597 attachment cases were disposed of by the Moonsiffs as follows :—

- 5 decided in favour of plaintiff and property sold.
- 85 security filed and suit instituted in Court.
- 235 struck off on Razeenama or receipts filed.
- 156 struck off on default.
- 114 still pending at the end of 1853.

22. On further inquiry it appeared, that on the 13th May 1841, the existing system was introduced by order of the Principal Assistant, who directed, that in future no cases should be admitted under Regulation V of 1812, in the Revenue Department, but that ryots whose property was attached after having given security, might sue, paying for the Stamp dues in the Moonsiff's Court under Regulation VIII of 1831. In practice the procedure is as follows :—

23. The party claiming the arrear does not attach and apply to the Moonsiff to have the attached property sold ; the attachment is ordered by the Moonsiff, who issues a notice of from seven to fifteen days, calling on the defaulter to pay the arrear claimed, or furnish security to

contest the claim in the Civil Court. If the defaulter attends and gives security, the attached property is not released but given in charge to the surety, and the defaulter is allowed fifteen days, in which to institute his suit on quarter Stamp paper in the Civil Court. If the suit is not filed within the time allowed, the property is sold, and the security must produce it, or is held answerable for the amount. In the Office of the Moonsiff of Hazareebaugh, on a party claiming an arrear and praying for attachment, a preliminary inquiry is made into the correctness of the claim by an examination of witness, whom the party is directed to produce. The depositions are recorded, then the order for attachment issues.

24. If security is not furnished, or if security is furnished and a suit not instituted within the time allowed, the attached property is sold.

25. This account of the proceedings is furnished by the Assistant.

26. It is clear, that in thus shutting the Summary Court against the ryots, the Assistant exceeded his powers. He should have reported to the Governor General's Agent, that he was of opinion, investigation by the Moonsiff in a regular suit was preferable to summary investigation in the Revenue Department. The Agent, if he agreed with him, might have recommended to the Government to the adoption of the Assistant's plan, and the Government, by virtue of the power vested in the Executive by Regulation XIII of 1833, might have authorized the innovation, but no other authority could suspend the law, and the under-holders have, for thirteen years, been deprived of the summary redress against a wrongful attachment to which by law they are entitled.

27. Many are of opinion, that to abolish the summary jurisdiction of the Revenue Department, and to have all claims for arrears of rent introduced as regular suits in the Moonsiff's Court, would be a judicious reform, but under the local reform introduced in Hazareebaugh, the poorer party is driven into the Civil Court. A ryot who cannot afford to pay the Stamp fee has no redress against attachment, however wrongful it may be.

28. I have before remarked that the control of the agent has not been as intimate and immediate as it should be. This authorized and illegal system should not have remained so long unknown.

29. The remedy I would apply is that which I have already recommended in reporting on Chota Nagpore. I would make use of the Moonsiffs, in all Departments, vested with the power of a Deputy Collector. A Moonsiff might admit these suits instituted on the part of under-holders and cultivators to contest attachments as summary suits

and try them summarily under Regulation V of 1812. Their decisions would of course be subject to appeal to the Principal Assistant in the Revenue Department in his Office. The alterations in the existing system will be, that suits will be admitted on an eight-anna Stamp, instead of quarter the full Stamp fee, and will be tried summarily, instead of as regular suits.

30. On the 31st July 1848, the Agent directed the Principal Assistant to attach the whole of Gadee Latakee in Kurrukdeea, and forwarded for his information a copy of his letter to the Government. The attachment was made on the grounds, that a female could not hold a Gadee. The estate had passed, by a sale for arrears in 1804, out of the hands of the original Tikaites, and the heir of the purchaser being a female, the Agent ruled that she could not succeed.

31. The orders of the Government, dated the 5th February 1849, directed that a settlement should be concluded with the heiress of the purchaser at a light jumma for ten years.

32. On the 15th May 1850, the Commissioner instructed the Assistant, in conformity with orders received from Government after correspondence with the Board of Revenue to call upon Mussumut Ameeroon Nissa, the claimant of the tenure, to consent to pay an increased jumma to Government in lieu of Ghatwal service, and if she refused, to institute a resumption suit against her ; the notice was to be for one month.

33. On the 30th October 1850, the Agent told the Assistant, that her offer to pay Rupees 200 more than the former jumma could not be accepted, but that if she would pay Rupees 2,100 in perpetuity, it should be recommended for approval.

34. On the 30th April 1851, the Agent directed the Assistant to report what revenue was then actually paid by the Gadee, and under what arrangement it was demanded.

35. On the 23rd September 1851, the Board ruled, that the negotiation with the claimant having failed, a regular suit for resumption must be instituted, and any collections made in excess of the former jumma returned.

36. It appears, on inquiry, that the case was only brought on the file of resumption cases on the 21st July 1852 ; a reply has been filed on the part of the defendant, but no proofs have been produced, and up to this time, the case is still pending. No reason is assigned why a year was allowed to elapse before bringing the case on the file, or why nearly two years have been allowed to pass without any step having been made towards a final adjudication,

37. Observing from the Returns received, that many resumed Mehals had been settled on temporary leases with the owners, or let to farmers, I called for explanation why the owners had been excluded. The Assistant reported, that in thirty-four cases the settlement of resumed Mehals appeared to have been made with the former proprietors or persons actually in possession at the time of resumption; that in nineteen cases the settlement had been made with Ticcadars or the parties who, as informants, caused the institution of the resumption suits; that in sixteen of those cases the proprietors failed to apply or bring forward any claim to settlement; that no permanent settlement had been made in consequence of the uncultivated state of the Mehals resumed, and that the Governor General's Agent had, on one occasion, declared that he had no authority to allow a permanent settlement. I recommend that the Governor General's Agent should be directed to call for and revise the proceedings connected with these settlements, and to cause the restoration to possession of the parties who were in possession when the resumption suits were instituted, if they were not formally and legally dispossessed, and if restoration is feasible without injustice to those now under engagements.

38. No attempt has been made to carry out the Board's Orders and plan for the arrangement and registry of the records, and without assistance and further Office accommodation, it might have been difficult to effect the system of arrangement prescribed. I found the papers methodically arranged.

39. The Deposit Accounts have been revised under the Board's Orders, and out of Rupees 71,495-4-3, no less than Rupees 67,258-7-11 will be transferred to "Land Revenue." This is the revenue of attached and confiscated estates. It should not have been held in deposit at all, but credited at once under the head of "Land Revenue." It has been intimated to the Assistant, that the new jumma of these Mehals should be brought on the Towjee forthwith. It is desirable that the attention of the Agent should be directed to this subject, lest it be lost sight of.

40. Observing in the list of estates two attached and two confiscated Mehals, I called for all the papers connected with them, in order to learn the system of management pursued in such cases.

41. On the 19th July 1848, the Governor General's Agent directed that this Mehal should be attached, on the ground that it was a Ghat-wallee Mehal, and had been improperly alienated by its possessor, who had no right to dispose of it. Attachment was ordered by means of the Darogah of Police, who, having carried the orders into execution,

reported the attachment of 5,952 beegahs of land assessed at Rupees 1,909-11-9. The Mehal was subsequently leased to five parties for five years, at a jumma of Rupees 970 per annum. The term has expired, and no further settlement has been made, so that at this time no one is answerable for the year's revenue. Orders have been issued to the Darogah to ascertain the exact amount of Mofussil rental.

42. I disapprove of such attachments and investigations being conducted by means of Darogah of Police, who have full occupation, in the Department to which they belong. As four suits are pending in the Civil Court for the reversal of the attachment, it is not worth while to incur the expense of settlement, till those suits shall have been disposed of. In the event of the attachment being confirmed, the Mehal may be measured and assessed, in conformity with the rules of settlement prescribed for the Regulation Provinces.

43. On the 7th June 1847, the orders of the Government having been received for the attachment of this Mehal, an order was issued to the Darogah of Police to make the attachment, and at the same time an Ameen was appointed. It does not appear to have been determined what part of the duties each was to perform. On the 6th and 16th July 1847, the Agent directed that the whole should be measured and the assets ascertained. In August 1847, a jumma-bundee was submitted, amounting to Rupees 9,090-8-2, but no measurement was made. On the 4th May 1848, a settlement, by which the jumma assessed amounted to Rupees 10,552-9-5, was submitted for the approval of the Agent, who confirmed the settlement for five years.

44. Rohu Sing having sued the Government, and obtained a decree for possession, the Orders of the Government, dated the 26th January 1853, directed that a settlement should be made with him at fair rates. The Principal Assistant, on receiving these orders, reported to the Agent, that as he had the jumma-bundee of the villages of the estate for several years, there could be little difficulty in immediately carrying the instruction into effect. The Agent replied, that as it appeared a detailed settlement could not conveniently be immediately made, a temporary settlement for one year, or for such longer period as might prove to be expedient, should be completed.

45. A temporary settlement was accordingly made for two years, and the Principal Assistant, in his letter of the 11th March, desired to be furnished with instructions as to the course to be pursued on the expiration of the lease. I recommend that the Estate should be measured and assessed in conformity with the settlement Rules prevalent in the Regulation Provinces. I observe, that in the temporary settlement the

Principal Assistant provides four Digwars to protect the Trunk Road at an expense of Rupees 144 per annum. These Officers are no longer necessary; they should be dismissed, and the Rupees 144 added to the jumma of the Mehal.

46. These Mehals were attached on the 13th September 1840, in consequence of the owner having been concerned in dacoity, and on the 26th March 1849, the confiscation was confirmed by the Government. The attachment was made by the Kurdama and Burgreedee.

Darogah of Police, who reported the Mofussil rental to be Rupees 3,288-10-0. On the strength of the Darogah's papers, the estate was farmed for one year, then for three years, for five years, for one year, and then for three years to the end of 1262. The jumma has increased from Rupees 3,904-6-1 to Rupees 4,485-12-0.

47. I find that on the 30th March 1850, the Agent informed the Principal Assistant, that "no data had yet been gained on which the settlement for a term of years, as recommended by him, can be effected, with a proper regard to all interests concerned; that it was his duty to collect such data on the spot in the next cold season, according to instructions with which he would be furnished; and that in the meantime, the settlement, with all the lease-holders, should be renewed for a year." On the 16th May 1851, the Agent again wrote. ;—

"If the requisite data be still wanting for a settlement, as indicated in my letter No. 91, dated 30th March 1850, you will be so good as to renew the current settlements for the coming year 1259, and proceed in the cold season to collect on the spot detailed information on those points, in which it is essential to the stability and justice of an arrangement of longer duration." In the 5th paragraph of his letter of the 29th September 1851, addressed to the Governor General's Agent, the Principal Assistant wrote thus—"I beg you will oblige me, by letting me know the nature of the data referred to in your letter No. 146, of the 6th May last: the instructions referred to, in the concluding part of the last paragraph of your letter No. 90, of the 30th March 1850, were not, I believe, subsequently received by my officiating predecessor, and I will be much obliged by your letting me know the nature of your wishes as to the data therein referred to." These data have not been furnished, and apparently the Principal Assistant has not been told what data were required.

48. There is no reason whatever why these Mehals should not be measured and assessed, as they would be, if situated in the Regulation Provinces. I recommend, that the Governor General's Agent be instructed to cause a settlement to be made in strict conformity with the

printed Rules, or to show cause why the Rules are not suitable to the circumstances of the Mehal. The management of the Government property in this Division should serve for the instruction and guidance of the Zemindars in each district, whereas the authorities seem to have acted, as if they supposed, that because the management of the rude Zemindars of the District was rude, therefore rude management must be more suitable than a digested and improved system.

49. I have given the details of those cases to show that the system is loose and unbusiness-like, devoid of method or rule. There are very concise and plain Rules for the conduct of settlements. The Assistant should study these Rules, and make his settlement in conformity with them, unless he should find the provisions unsuited to local peculiarities to the Agent, and describe the course of proceeding which he thinks should be followed, instead of conforming to the Rules observed elsewhere.

50. The Superintendency does not appear to me to have been as intimate as it should be. It is not enough for the Governor General's Agent to hear appeals : he must make himself thoroughly acquainted with the system of administration in each of the Offices under him ; secure uniformity of action, where a uniform system can work with efficiency and where variety of practice is called for ; take care that the various systems allowed are good in themselves, and as far as may be consistent with each other.

51. The present Commissioner, Mr. Allen, is well acquainted with the systems of the settled and unsettled Provinces. He should very carefully observe all the proceedings of the District Officers under him, connected with khas management and settlement, and on all occasions insist on the strict observance of such of the printed Rules as are adapted to the Agency, and, with the sanction of Government, supply the place of the unsuitable provisions by local rules suited to any local peculiarities which may exist.

JUDICIAL

Criminal Justice :

In 1856, it appears that the Principal Assistant Commissioner at Hazaribagh used to convict for highway robbery and send the case to the Deputy Commissioner for confirmation. In his letter No. 129 of 1856, the Principal Assistant Commissioner informed the Deputy Commissioner that in a case of highway robbery, the prisoner who was recognized and no proof had been brought against him was ordered to give personal security to the extent of Rs. 15/- or to go to Jail for one year with labour. In the same case, he found the other defaulters guilty of the charge and sentenced them for 5 years with hard labour and iron. A few other men in the same case were sentenced hard labour and irons for 7 years.

No. 17.

From

The Offg. Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

To

The Principal Assist. Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated, Chotanagpur, the 12 May, '57.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 184 of the 29th Ultimo.

2. I quite agree with you in thinking that the provisions of act XXVIII of 1855 should not be enforced in this Division and that it is especially inapplicable to tracts like Khurruckdea where excitable races like the Southals are in close proximity to and in habits of constant dealing with traders who are as cunning and unscrupulous as the hill people are rude, reckless and unsophisticated.

3. I have looked over the cases you were so good as to send for my inspection and entirely approve of the view taken by the Moonsiff in decreeing and awarding interests in suits for produce with the stipulations called. Dhenree Sowree and Dobeeree attacked and beg that pending a reference to Government on the subject the new act which would oblige the Court to decree in accordance with the terms of the bond may not be considered as having effect in your District.

4. In regard to the Dhoree and Dobeeree exaction if the Moonsif's decisions are upheld these stipulations will become a dead letter and

the Southals will have no causes for complaining about them. It is nevertheless desirable that the Southals should be protected from the liability of being decoyed or compelled to sign such bonds and I should be glad to hear from you how this could best be done the Moonsiff might be authorised to register the deeds at a low fee and registration of some kind or countersignature of some authority might be insisted on.

5. In regard to illegal casses exactions of excessive rent and other similar complaints would it not be advisable to vest the Deputy Magistrate of Burhee with powers as Deputy Collector to investigate such cases summarily.

6. Those brought before you which contain specific charges of this nature you can of course dispose of—The Southals should be informed and made to comprehend that it is impossible to adjudicate in general and sweeping charges of oppression such as are brought forward in some of the cases submitted to me.

7. The man who complains about dispossession from land reclaimed by his ancestors, Sorai Manjee should be referred to a Civil Suit and his case so promptly decided in the Civil Court as to encourage others to come forward. You should I think avail yourself largely of your power to admit such suits to be instituted by the party dispossessed in form a pauperis. This is better than the irregular admission of such cases for decision summarily in the Criminal Court as besides the illegality of the proceeding the order is liable to revision in a regular suit of which this dispossessed intruder would be sure to avail himself.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) Illegible.

Offg. Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

No. 463—A.

From

W. S. Seton Karr Esqr.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department.

Dated, the 27th February, 1861.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 49 dated the 7th ultimo, in which the Lt. Governor's opinion is called for in

regard to the expediency of appointing some of the European and Native gentlemen of position and influence in Calcutta to be Honorary Magistrates and Justice of the Peace, and in reply to submit the following observations for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council.

2. Before the year 1832, the only persons authorised by Law to act as Justice of the Peace in Calcutta were members of the Supreme Council Judges of the Supreme Court and covenanted servants of Government, but on the passing of the statute 2nd and 3rd William N Cap 117 all persons not being subjects of a foreign state were rendered eligible for the office. In the disposal of ordinary judicial business, however neither the European Gentlemen who were appointed before the act in question nor the East Indian and native Gentlemen who were appointed after its promulgation, were found to render much, or indeed any practical assistance, and their services therefore were almost exclusively confined to conservancy matters, and to the Department of assessing and enforcing payment of the House Taxes. By section CLVIII of the statute XXXIII Geo III Cap LII District Justices of the Peace in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay were expressly authorized to devote their attention to these matters at their quarter sessions, but the work done by un-paid Justices of the Peace in Calcutta contained to be so very inconsiderable, that this duty also soon entirely devolved upon the Stipendary Magistrates and after the passing of the Local act No. XVI of 1847 and the appointment of a Board of Municipal Commissioners the Court of Quarter sessions fell into desuetude and even its nominal sittings are discontinued.

3. Except when Honorary Magistrates are sitting in Quarter sessions, experience not in Calcutta only, but in England, seems to the Lt. Governor to show that in great Towns none but paid Magistrates, sitting regularly will take practically useful part or indeed any part at all, in Judicial business. In these respects in which the working of an unpaid Magistracy is natural, useful and practicable, a great town differs wholly from a rural district.

4. There are now seven Criminal sessions in the year in Calcutta presided over by a Judge of the Supreme Court, Courts of Quarter Sessions, therefore, would not be useful in the way of expediting trials; especially as two Magistrates sitting together have now special criminal powers in cases in which delay would be hurtful to the prosecutors and witnesses. In the Lt. Governor's opinion a revival of Courts of Quarter Sessions would be no real improvement in the administration of Criminal Justice in Calcutta,

5. The improvement which the Lt. Governor would wish to see would be the substitution of the mere Committal of a Magistrate for the finding of a true Bill by a Grand Jury and the holding of Criminal Sessions once a week, or once a fortnight or as often as the existence of cases ready for trial make the sitting of a Court competent to try them requisite in practice, this reform would expedite justice at no inconvenience either to Judges or Juries, and with no loss of time or labour to any one.

6. But whether any change of system be made or not, the Lt. Governor can see no objection to the nomination of any member of European and Native gentlemen of intelligence and high position to be Justices of the Peace for the Town of Calcutta.

7. With reference to paragraph 10 of your letter under reply, and as regards the question of Honorary Magistrates in the mofassil, I am directed to state that the Lt. Governor did not contemplate any restriction by precise rule of words, or any other restriction in practice than would be adopted in the case of a paid Magistrate, supposing the circumstances to apply equally to such a Magistrate. The sort of case which the Lt. Governor had in mind, when he spoke of indirect interests was one which may be exemplified thus. A Planter and a Zamindar are at issue about a farm or lease a talook, a bazar, a haut or open market, held periodically or any other ordinary subjects of dispute. A case occurs in consequence of the dispute in which neither party is named or a defendant, but in which the Ryots, or other persons who are defendants, or on the side of the zamindar, in whose interest, if the case be a true one, the act charged was committed. In such a case, although the zamindar's name should not occur, the Planter might very justly complain, if the zamindar, being an Honorary Magistrate were to try the accused, and the zamindar *vice versa* might complain if the Planter were to try any such case in which the servants or Ryots of the former were implicated. This indicates the sort of indirect interest the Lt. Governor alluded to and it is one which experience warrants him in saying will be a very common case. Measures preparatory to the appointment of Honorary Magistrates in the Province have been taken.

I have etc.,
(Sd.) W. S. Seton Karr,
Secretary to Govt. of Bengal
(True copy)
(Sd.) G. W. Barthlet
Dy. Registrar Bengal Secretariat.
(True copy)
(Sd.) E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

No. 1780 A.

From

H. Bell Esquire,
Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Military Department.

Fort William, the 8th July, 1861.

Sir,

With reference to the letters noted in the margin, submitting the names of certain Military Officers in Civil Employ under this Government, who were considered entitled to the "India Medal" I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter No. 491, dated the 30th April last from the Commissioner of Chotanagpore, and to enquire whether any medal has been received for Lieutenant Colonel Simpson, Principal Assistant Commissioner at Hazareebagh and if so to request that it may be forwarded to this office for transmission to that officer.

I have & ca.

(Sd.) H. Bell,

Under Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

True copy

(Sd.) Illegible

Assistant to the Commissioner.

No. 780.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpore,

To

Lieutt. Coll. T. Simpson,
1st Class Deputy Commissioner, Hazareebaugh.

Dated Chotanagpore, the 24th June, 1861.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 238 of the 18th instant, I have the honour to inform you that the intention is that the Paresnath Hill should be altogether transferred from your jurisdiction to that of the Deputy Commissioner of Mannbhum and it will be, as relates Police matters, in the jurisdiction of the nearest thanna in the Govindpore Sub-Division.

2. If you have any cases on your files connected with the hill, I request you will have the goodness to report their nature.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servt.
(Sd) Illegible.
Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

No. 410.

From

E. H. Lushington, Esqr.,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur.
Fort William, the 17th May, 1862.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 645 dated the 22nd ultimo, and its enclosures relative to the proposed substitution of Hindee or Kaithee for the use of Ordoo in the Persian character, as the native language of our Courts in the Lohardaggah and Hazaribagh districts,

2. In reply I am directed to state that the Lt. Governor doubts the expediency of the sweeping change proposed by you, and conceives that the question has been discussed, both in an administrative and philological point of view, on erroneous premises.

3. Whether the language spoken by the Natives of Hindustan, including Behar and the districts of Lohardaggah and Hazaribagh be called Hindee, Hindustani or Ordoo, it is in fact but one language, having one and the same grammar, though its dialects range from the Court language of Delhi to the *Braja Bhasha* of Mathura or the *Thenth (pure) Hindee*, with its various modifications peculiar to each district, and though it be written in the Arabic or Persian character on the one hand or in the Devanagri character, and its corruption of *Mahajanee* on the other.

4. In all Hindustan including in that definition the region bounded on the south by the country in which Mahrutta and Telooogoo are spoken and on the east Bengal proper there is but one language commonly

spoken by Hindus and Mussulmans and that language is known to them and called by them by the name of *Hindee*. The form of this language in use among educated men, and the dwellers in cities and towns approximates more or less closely to the Delhi standard and it is generally written in the arabic character. This is the form of the language used in our Courts. The form of the language used in rural districts and places remote from the Centres of civilization approach more or less closely to the "*Thenth Hindee*" and is usually written either/by Bankers/ in the Mahajanee or/by Traders and by zemindars and their servants/in the Kaithee corruption of the Devanagri character.

5. The Devanagri character itself is rarely used except in religious and literary works, and in formal documents.

6. But there is no reason why/except for convenience/the most polished Ordoo should not be written in the Devanagri character or in one of its corruptions nor is there any reason why the purest of "*Thenth Hindee*" or the roughest of its dialects should not be written in the Arabic character. In point of fact the dialect in which the depositions of villagers is usually taken down is that form of "*Thenth Hindee*" which the deponent speaks, though it be written by the scribe in the Arabic character, and the Arabic character as compared with the Devanagri or any of its corruptions, may be appropriately called a kind of short hand, while it is far more legible when written than any of the others.

7. Under these circumstances the Lt. Governor has no hesitation in determining under section CXCVII of the Code of Criminal Procedure that Hindee is the language in ordinary use in the Districts in question ; but the law does not require the Govt. nor it is necessary or expedient that it should require the Government to determine what dialect of the Hindee language is in ordinary use in those Districts, or in what character the evidence given in that language or in any dialect thereof shall be written so long as the evidence of witnesses is taken down in Hindee, as the language in ordinary use, the law is silent as to the character in which that languages shall be written.

8. The Lt. Governor is of opinion that no sufficient reason is shown by you for entirely abolishing the use of the Arabic character in official documents in the Districts of Hazaribagh and Lohardaggah any more than in the districts of Behar but he thinks that the language used should approach, as nearly as possible, to the general dialect of the District, and that it should be as free from the admixture of Persian and arabic words as the nature of the business

to be transacted will admit of all ministerial officers of Government should be required to make themselves acquainted with the Kaithee character so as to be able to read it when written, but it is not necessary that any document should be written in Kaithee except notices and the like which are intended for the information of the public.

9. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Sudder Court and the Board of Revenue for information.

I have etc,
(Sd) E. H. Lushington,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

No. 204.

From

Major J. S. Davis,
Judicial Commissioner, Chotanagpur.

To

Captain H. M. Boddam,
Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh Divn.

Dated, Chotanagpur, the 24th May, 1862.

Sir,

Referring to the correspondence noted on the margin * and in supersession of the orders conveyed in my letter No. 131 of the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to annex copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the address of the Commissioner ruling that though Hindee is the language in ordinary use in your District, the record of the Courts is to be in the Persian character.

2. Particular attention is directed to para 8 of the Government letter; all official documents should be as free as possible from Persian and Arabic words not generally understood by the people, and the Moonsifs should be instructed to record their decisions in such simple language as will be intelligible to all notices, parwanas and the like should, as formerly, be written in the *Kaithee* character.

I have the honour to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant
(Sd.) J. S. Davis,

Judicial Commissioner, Chotanagpur.

* Letter No. 307 of the 24th February, last from the Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Letter No. 192 dated 27th March last from the Registrar of the Magt. Adawlut.

†No. 410 D/- 17th instant.

COMMUNICATION

No. 1820.

From

Colonel W. G. Baker.

Secretary to the Government of India.

To

A. R. Young, Esqr.

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Dated the 17th April, 1857.

Sir,

The Right Honourable the Governor General in Council has lately had under his consideration the question of what line should be drawn between roads the original cost and ultimate maintenance of which should be borne by the general revenues and these which should be paid for by the local funds.

**Bengal Govt. 1857
Road Maintenance Funds
Source defined :**

2. In dealing with this question His Lordship in Council has recognized the principle that all parts of the British provinces should enjoy the advantages of certain well kept main lines of Road which should be supported at the expenses of the State, and that these benefits should no longer be restricted to those favoured districts through which the Grand Trunk lines now pass. Such lines of road maintained at the public and charge might be termed Imperial Roads.

3. The subordinate lines of interior communication should still properly be maintained by the local funds and might be termed Local Roads.

4. I am therefore directed to invite the attention of His Honour the Lieutenant Governor to the early preparation of a general scheme of Imperial Roads for the Bengal Provinces where existing Local Roads are naturally suited to take up a position in the scheme as Imperial lines, their transfer from the charge of the local funds to that of the State will be directed by the Government of India on its approval of His Honor's proposed plans. The construction of new lines of road to complete the net work of Imperial Roads must of course take place under the rules laid down for the sanction of the new project, and the most important lines, or those which for any reason it may be thought most desirable to bring forward first will naturally find an early place in His Honor's Budgets of future years.

5. In designing such a general scheme of Imperial Roads, it will of course be necessary to bear in mind the communication with the adjacent Provinces not under his Honour's Rule and the arrangements for the border districts should be made in concert with His Honour the Lieutenant Governor, North Western Provinces, to whom a similar communication to the present has likewise been made.

6. In elucidation of these views I am further directed to explain that the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council would desire to see one main line of Imperial Road in each district passing through its principal station or town thus affording the means of easy communication between the Chief centres of population and ensuring to every part of the country a proper outlet for its produce and a ready access to the great channels or thoroughfares commerce.

7. His Honour will also naturally understand that the principal lines of road now kept up at the expense of the Government, whether as part of the Grand Trunk Road, or of its branches or whether they be altogether separate lines should be considered as already forming part of the system of Roads that is now suggested, and that it is not the intention of the Governor General in Council that additional road accommodation should be provided at the public charge in those districts which are now traversed by these great arteries. Neither on the other hand, will it be possible in designing such a scheme, rigidly to restrict the lines of road in any district to none only; for the convergence of lines on the centres of traffic will of necessity cause some interference with such a rule. It should however be generally borne in mind, that the object to be aimed at is the provision of one main line of road to each district by which its communication with its neighbours may be maintained in the most convenient manner.

8. Another principle which the Government of India desires to be carried out is that so far as it is practicable the lines of Imperial Road should be continuous and that no intermixture of portions of road under local management with others under Government management, should be allowed. This point should be particularly attended to.

9. I am further desired to observe that on the transfer to the charge of the state of the lines of Road which it has been proposed to designate Imperial the proceeds of all Tolls and Ferries on those lines will cease to be credited by the Local Funds and will be carried to the account of the funds which will be specially instituted for the purpose and which will be made to exhibit the charges and income of each main line of road as directed in my circular No. 1639 dated 10th instant. The equity of this arrangement will be apparent, and the details of the way

in which it may best be carried out may it is hoped, receive His Honor's early attention.

10. The importance of some general provision for the establishment of Tolls, which will of course apply to these lines of Road, has so recently formed the subject of a despatch to the Government of Bengal that it is not necessary to do more than request that the views it expressed, may have the attention of His Honor's in reference to my present communication also.

11. In submitting this scheme of Imperial Roads, you will under the orders of His Honor, be good enough to see that it is accompanied by a map which shall clearly illustrate the various Classes of Roads referred to and at the same time indicate the boundaries of the several districts and the positions of the chief stations, Towns and Cities.

I have etc.

Council Chamber
the 17th April, 1857

(Sd.) W. G. Baker Coll.
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

(True copy)

(Sd.) A. R. Young,
Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

(True copy)

(Sd.)

From

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Dated Darjeeling, the 5th May, 1857.

Sir,

With reference to the accompanying copy of a letter No. 1820 dated the 17th Ultimo from the Secretary to the Government of India Public Works and Department in which are explained the views of the Supreme Government in regard to a general scheme of Imperial or main lines of roads, to be constructed and maintained by the State, and of subordinate and branch lines of interior communication, to be maintained by local funds, I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to request that you will report fully on the subject in reference to the roads and communications of your Division embodying in your report the opinions of the several Ferry Fund Committees as well as your own as to what roads should be maintained by the general revenues, and what by local funds.

2. In considering this matter you will bear in mind the principles laid down in paragraphs 6-8 as those to be observed in carrying out the scheme proposed, and in submitting your report you will not fail to comply with the request for a Map which is made in the last paragraph of Colonel Baker's letter.

I have etc.

(Sd.) A. R. Young.

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 210.

From

The Joint Magistrate of RaneeGUNGE.

To

The Sub-Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated RaneeGUNGE, 28th April, 1860.

Sir,

In reply to your letter No. 37 of the 18th instant, I have the honour to inform you, that I have this day despatched the 4 cases alluded to and as requested therein, by Government, Bullock Train on public service to the care of the Deputy Magistrate of Burhee and to request the favour of your remitting me the sum of Rs. 7/- by a draft as the same has been paid by me for Rail fare and cart hire for carrying them from the Railway Station to the Post Office viz.

| | | | Rs. as. p. |
|-----------|----|----|-------------------|
| Rail fare | .. | .. | 6 14 6 |
| Cart hire | .. | .. | 0 1 6 |
| Total | .. | .. | <hr/> 7 0 0 <hr/> |

I have & etc.

(Sd.) W. H. Prinsep,

Joint Magistrate.

Railway Receipt for the seecca of Rs. 6-14-6 is herewith enclosed.

(Sd.) W. H. Prinsep.

REVENUE

Copy No. 312.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

To

E. T. Trevor Esqr.,
Secretary, to the Board of Revenue Department.

Dated Camp, Doolmee the 12th March, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit to the Board of Revenue the correspondence relative to the pending settlement of Pergunnah Kodarma which has been repeatedly called for.*

2. The Board directed in your letter No. 44 of the 26th August, last that the correspondence should be sent to them when the case was completed. The Settlement is not likely to be concluded for some time yet, but I think it advisable to submit the letters at once and to lay before the Board a sketch of the kind of settlement it is proposed to make to give them an early opportunity of correcting what they may find erroneous in the instructions issued.

3. Kodarma when it first came under the British Government was regarded as an integral part of the great Ramghur Zamindary. Its Rajah being considered as a vassal of the Maha Rajah of Ramghur, but the former subsequently, obtained a decision of Court declaring him an independent proprietor. He was afterwards, convicted of harbouring dacoits and his Estates confiscated.

*My letter to the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazareebaugh, No. 102, dated 2nd July, 1859. His reply No. 630, dated 19th August, 59 with three enclosures.

My letter No. 128, dated 24th August, 59. His reply No. 830, dated 27th Nov, 59.

My letter No. 173, dated 8th December 59.

His letter No. 844, dated 18th December, 59.

My letter No. 40, dated 12th January, 60. His reply No. 11, Dated 14th January, 60.

My letter No. 189, dated 14th February, 60. Copy of letter from the Superintendent of Revenue, Secretary, Hazareebaugh Division, to the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazareebaugh No. 249, dated 24th February, 60.

My letter to Hazareebaugh, No. 287, dated 6th March, 60.

My letter to the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazareebaugh, No. 291 dated 9th March, 60.

His letter No. 54 of 1st March, 60.

My letter No. 298 dated 10th March, 60.

4. It consists of 112 uslee villages besides hamlets, and it is situated to the west of Khurruckdeah nearly bordering on Behar.

5. The results of the various settlements made are exhibited in the margin—

| | | | | |
|--|-------|----|----|-----------------------------|
| Jumma for 1248 F.S. according to the | | | | At the close of a five |
| Pattahs granted by the Ex. Rajah ... | 3,632 | 10 | 9½ | year's settlement some |
| Principal Assistant Settlement for | | | | improvement is appa- |
| 1249 F. S. ... | 4,217 | 2 | 4½ | rent, but during the last |
| Triennial settlement from 1250 to 1252 | | | | ten years although the |
| at a yearly jumma of Qinquennial | | | | settlement of the Pergu- |
| Settlement from 1253 to 1257 F. S. ... | 4,110 | 4 | 7½ | nnah has been repeatedly |
| At a yearly Jumma of ... | 4,498 | 14 | 1½ | revised there has been |
| Settlement for 1258 F. S. ... | 4,600 | .. | .. | little indication of exten- |
| Settlement for 1259 F. S. ... | 4,494 | 7 | .. | sion of cultivation. |
| Triennial settlement from 1260 to 1262 | | | | |
| F. S. yearly | 4,515 | 1 | 4 | |
| Revenue for 1263 F. S. ... | 4,535 | 12 | .. | |
| Ditto for 1264 F. S. ... | 4,623 | .. | .. | |
| Ditto for 1265 F. S. ... | 4,619 | .. | .. | |
| Ditto for 1266 F. S. ... | 4,616 | .. | .. | |

6. But in truth the system of revision was but ill calculated to develop the real value of the Estate. At the expiration of each lease, without any local enquiry the ticca or farm of the villages was put up to competition and bids were obtained, the farm was disposed of, not to the highest bidder, but to the old Ticcadars at such increase as the highest bid warranted the Collector to ask for.

7. No one had therefore any real interest in bidding, but the system had this one advantage, with few exceptions the old Ticcadars have been retained in Office so that the appointment has become to be regarded almost as an hereditary one. And it is best that it should be so viewed.

8. The new settlement will of course be made with the same Ticcadars, but without any unnecessary change in the system of assessment that the people are accustomed to or encroachment on privileges, that certain classes of ryots may be found to be possessed of, the rent at which the village will be tendered to the Ticcadar will be fixed from the data furnished by the Khusrah and professional survey of the Pergunnah just completed by Captain Thompson.

9. To effect such a settlement it is necessary that the existing rates and system should be defined as accurately as possible and my wish to obtain the necessary information has led to the long correspondence,

between myself and Colonel Simpson herewith submitted for the Board's inspection.

10. From the information furnished by Colonel Simpson it appears that the cultivators of Kodarma are of two classes. The old resident cultivators, the descendants probably of the original settlers who are called "Jeobindar" and the temporary cultivators or recent settlers called "Otcu".

11. The former are a privileged class and pay only for the irrigated rice cultivation held by them, the assessment so levied giving them the right to the use of a proportion of land for dry crops to a patch of garden land and a homestead.

12. No attempt had even been made to define what proportion of upland area these privileged ryots were entitled to hold thus free, but a panchayat of old ryots from different villages called on for a statement have recently given it as their opinion that the privileged cultivators who pay rent for one Ramghur biggah of rice land should hold with it an equal quantity of upland, ten cattahs of garden, two cattas of homestead, and the right to five mowa trees. For the best rice land these ryots it is stated pay from 2 Rupees to $2\frac{1}{8}$ per Ramghur biggah, the Ramghur biggah is equal to 3,600 square yards or to $2\frac{1}{2}$ Bengal biggah consequently the assessment on the holder of a Ramghur biggah of best rice land would be about 8 annas a Bengal biggah for the entire jote, the ryot having in addition his five mowa trees.

13. The Panchayet have not determined how much upland goes with the superior kinds of rice cultivation but as the 2 quality is assessed at half the rate imposed on the first I would assume that half the quantity of upland would go with it.

14. The "Otcu" ryots pay for all kinds of cultivation. For the rice land they pay one fourth less than the "Jeebindaree" but then they pay from 1 to 2 Rupees for garden and from 12 annas to 1 Rupee for homestead and for "tanr" or upland up to six annas a biggah. The "Otcu" ryot holding the same quantity of land as the "Jeebindar" who pays $2\frac{1}{3}$ would have to pay about Rupees $\frac{3}{4}$ for his jote or at the rate of about 10 annas per Bengal biggah.

15. I see nothing to object to in these rates and do not consider we should gain any advantage by attempting my radical change in the system. Such changes are always unpopular and even where favorable to the ryot cause dissatisfaction. Our object will be only to define more accurately and confirm and secure the privileges of the old ryots

but we must also take care that they are not abused. Thus whilst the old ryot has his jote secured to him at a fixed rent by registration and a Pattah, he must distinctly understand that for the upland &c., held by him in excess of his due proportion he must pay for as an "Otcu".

16. In regard to the "Otcu" ryots I am inclined to think they should be assessed in the lump leaving the Ticcadar as heretofore to determine individual liabilities.

17. The survey gives the settlement Offices besides large clear map and statistical details for each village, the area of the rice cultivation separately the area of other cultivation the cultivable area and the waste area. When he has in addition through the Patwary separated the cultivation of the "Otcu" and "Jeebindaree" ryots he will be able with these details before him to form a fair estimate of the actual assets of the village and may at once fix the rent at which it should be offered to the Ticcadar.

18. It is impossible to say what profits these Ticcadars have hitherto enjoyed, but in addition to whatever they could obtain from the ryots in excess of the rent they had themselves to pay most of them held lands rent free called *mujihus* and it is said that when this privilege was first accorded and it is their only recognised privilege the allowance was ten percent of the village rice cultivation.

19. I believe the old Ticcadars are quite willing to take leases of the villages on the rent that may be fixed by us if this old privilege be only accorded to them, and, I do not propose to interfere with it, ten percent of the best land rent free is a greater consideration to them than a commission of 15 percent in cash on the collections would be.

20. By the Boards Circular No. 39, dated 20th, July, '60 I am precluded from making more than an annual settlement but if there be no very cogent reason to the contrary I would be glad to be authorised to offer long leases of say 30 years to the Ticcadars and I think they would accept them with alacrity.

21. Besides Pergunnah Kodarma we have for settlement in Khurruckdeah 147 resumed moujahs. It is expected that the professional survey of these mauzahs will be completed this season. I consulted Captain Thompson as to the expediency of the revenue settlements of these mouzahs being made by him village by village simultaneously with the survey and as he fully approves of this plan and has expressed his willingness to undertake it I have authorised his doing so in anticipation of the approval of the Board as there was no time to be

lost should the Board approve of the general principles of settlement sketched in this letter as proposed for Kodarma I will instruct Captain Thompson to proceed on the same system.

True Copy.
Sd/Illegible.
Record Assistant Commissioner.

I have & ca.,
Sd/E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

No. 260.

From

Captain G. H. Thomson,
Supdt. Revenue Survey,
Hazaribagh Division.

To

The Commissioner of Revenue,
Chota Nagpore Division,
Camp via Ranchi.

Dated Camp via Hazareebaugh, the 14th March, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Memo No. 288 of the 6th Inst. forwarding, for my information, copy of your letter No. 287 of 6th March to Lieut Col. T. Simpson, Princ. Ast. Commr. Hazareebaugh in which that Officer is directed to make over to me the papers i.e. connected with the existing settlement of the Government villages of Khurruckdeah, in order that I may take up the resettlement, on survey data, of these villages.

2. I also beg to acknowledge in this place, with many thanks, the receipt of your Demi Offl. letter of the 7th Inst. in which you have favoured me with your views on several points of detail connected with this duty.

3. I quite agree with you that down here, where a Tehkedar (perhaps an outsider) takes the place of the up country and *Pewjat* cultivating village community, the details of working a settlement must differ and that unless some special arrangement, such as you propose in the granting of pottahs to old cultivators is made the ryots are likely to suffer at the hands of the Tehkedar—I shall therefore give this matter due attention. The only difficulty in carrying out the Pottah measure is that nearly all the valuable lands are cultivated by the "*Maroosee ryots*," so that under a ryot fixed *pottah* system, the present Tehkedars will not be very willing to renew their contracts, nor will

others be forthcoming under such terms, as the Tehkedars gains would then be confined to anything he could make out of the other cultivated lands and jungle and consequently he would deal the more hardly with the temporary cultivators, on those as locally called, "Ootkur", lands.

4. The only material difference that I can see between the system of assessment that I detailed in my official letter No. 249 of 24th Ultimo, and Demi Offl. letter of 27th Ultimo to Col. Simpson's address, copies of both of which I forwarded to you and the system that you wish to be introduced, is that instead of assessing on total cultivation, area and other capabilities in one whole sum on the village you wish that each old ryot should be assessed for the assessable land he cultivates and that the amount of these separate sums together with any sum that may fairly be assessed on the other or "Ootkur" lands (generally held by the Tehkedar) should be considered the total jumma of the village.

5. The one can be as easily done as the other and I will of course carry out your wishes in this respect.

6. Here if not for the position and the interests of the Tehkedar this would exactly correspond with the "Putteedaree" system of the northwest, a system that is most beneficial for the ryot and people generally and it becomes a question that I should like to have your opinion on as to whether, in the absence of a willing Tehkedar, under the ryot pottah system, the whole of the village lands should not thus be divided over and assessed in the name of the old cultivators ?

7. I would also beg to suggest that with a view to improvement on the present disgracefully bad road communication of the District, a small percentage of the Jumma now to be fixed on each village should be set aside for the formation of a Road Fund and that this opportunity (a good one) should be taken for enforcing a similar payment, in addition to their present jumma, from the different zemeendars of this district whether Ghautwal or other ?

8. I have now traversed over the whole District and I can safely say that I never met a worse one for its interior roads—In fact there are no roads at all being ploughed over, wherever there is cultivation each season—I have also carefully examined the different pottahs of the Ghatwals and in all I find the condition "*to take care of their roads, so that travellers shall travel over them with comfort.*" This evidently signifies that in those days—A. D. 1780 there were roads and as it is as evident that through the carelessness of the zemeendars the roads have been allowed to go to ruin. I think that they may now be fairly called upon to act up to the spirit of their agreement and in atonement

for the past and to prevent—breach of contract for the future, that all should be made to pay as I have suggested equally with the zemeendars of the Government villages ?

9. Trusting to be favoured with your reply to this letter at an early date, so that I can speedily fix my places.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servant.
G. H. Thompson, Captain.
Supdt. Revenue Survey,
Hazareebaugh Division.

Year—1860

No. 22.

From

E. T. Trevor Esqr.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue Department.

To

The Commissioner of Revenue,
for the Division of Chota Nagpore.

Dated Fort William, the 10th April, 1860.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 312, dated the 12th ultimo with accompaniment, relative to the pending Settlement of Pergh. Kodarma in the District of Hazareebaugh and, in reply, to communicate as follows :—

2. Your instructions to the Collector in respect to the way in which this settlement should be conducted, are generally approved. But on some point they require to be qualified.

3. You are disposed to perpetuate the existing system of continuing on estate, as much as possible, in the hands of an old Thicadar. But the Board are of opinion that care should be taken, whilst treating these Thicadars with every consideration, to make it distinctly understood that their tenures are not hereditary.

4. In this para, the Board understand you to mean that the entire area in the possession of "Ootcur" ryots is to be assessed in the lump, leaving the Thicadar to determine the assessment which each Ootcur ryot should pay according to the extent of his tenure.

5. But some "Ootcur" ryots, the Board believe reside on the estate, and they ought not therefore, to be abandoned to the mercies of the Thicadars. Such ryots ought, in the Boards opinion, to be protected by Pattahs and their lands ought to be secured to them at a fair rent for as long a period as circumstances may render expedient.

6. As the value of property in the District in which this Estate lies is daily rising, the Board are doubtful whether it should be immediately brought within the scope of the Government order directing the sale of Estates, the property of Government.

7. At any rate the Thicadars and 'Jeebindaree' ryots must be secured in their rights before such sale the purchaser must look to the extension of cultivation as the source of his profits.

8. On this point, however, you are requested to report specially.

9. If it should be considered expedient to retain the farming system, the Board think that it will be preferable to remunerate the Thicadars by a commission instead of as you propose in para 19 by a rent free grant of a certain portion of their farm.

10. The Board also approve of the arrangements made by you for the settlement of the 147 small resumed Mehals in Pergunnah Khurruckdeah.

11. The original enclosures of your letter are returned.

I have & etc.,
(Sd.) E. T. Trevor,
Secretary.

No. 109.

From

A. G. Wilson Esqr.,
Deputy Magistrate of Burhee.

To

Lieutt. Colonel I. Simpson,
Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazareebaugh.

Dated Burhee, the 19th April, 1860.

Sir,

With reference to your office Memo No. 14 of the 16th February last and its accompaniments and letters No. 333 and 417 of the 16th and 30th ultimo consecutively to your address from the Commissioner of Chota Nagpore, I have the honor to state that I proceeded to Kurburballe on the 19th March for the purpose of applying for perpetual lease on behalf of Government of the land comprising the Kurburballe Coal field as directed.

2. On reaching the village of Jackumba on the 24th March I called on the Tikaitnees of Kurburballe Moosst Soobas Koomooree and Gouree Koomooree guardians of Tekait Sidh Nath Singh a minor as also Rajah Guroor Narain Sing of Seerampore for a lease in perpetuity of the lands in their respective Zameendarries where Coal had been discovered explaining them that Government would respect any engagements which they might have entered into with other parties and was binding on the proprietors. To this application I at first received unsatisfactory answers, but subsequently the Rajah of Seerampore agreed to give a lease to Government of such lands where Coal had been found or was supposed to exist upon the same terms as he had let them to the Railway Company namely three Rupees four annas per Bigha. The Tekaitnees of Kurburballe on my calling them for a decisive answer, state their inability to grant perpetual lease of the Coal lands in their Zamindaree to Government in consequence of their being merely the guardians of the Tekait but express their readiness to grant a lease of such lands as the Govt. may require, till the Tekait becomes of age. As my instructions were merely to apply for a lease of the lands comprising the Kurburballe Coal fields I have avoided entering into any arrangement with either of the above parties in whose Estates the Coal bed, or the greater portion of them are situated and leave the honor of transmitting to you herewith the replies, to my perwannahs for the information and orders of the Commissioner.

3. With reference to the 2nd para, of the Commissioner's letter I have the honor to state that I find the Railways Company hold the lease of about 174 Bighas of land for 6 years at the rate of one Rupee eight annas per Bigha under pattahs from the Tekait of Kurburbalee and have also possession of some land from the Rajah of Seerampore @ 3/4 per bigha the pattahs and kubbaoliats for which have not been duly drawn out in consequence of my application for a perpetual lease on the part of Government having reached them before the deeds were executed, and Mr. Cockburn considering it unnecessary to take any further steps about it.

4. The Bengal Coal Company have a lease of 112-15 of land for 7 years granted by the Tekait of Kurburbalee to Mr. John Ward on the 24th Fagoon 1264 Fussily from the 25th Fagoon 1264 to 1271 Fussily. They have also the promise of a lease of 2000 Bighas in the villages marginally* noted holding possession of them or it is said

*Pepra, Turu, Alookpetto, Tooma, Burh Soltain, Ikdoonc Kittle kapee.

under an Amal Dusteeh from the Tekaitnees dated some time last January but as Mr. Deveria could not send me the Document and stated his inability to point out the boundary the transaction appears to me to be incomplete; besides these lands Mr. Deveria informs me, the Company hold about 2400 Bighas more from other parties of the same Gaddee thus making a total of 4512 Bighas but as that gentleman was unable to send for my inspection the deeds under which the lands were held I am unable to state the terms of the leases or name of the lessees.

5. Besides the leases granted to the Railways and Bengal Coal Companies the Tekait of Kururbalee appears to have granted a lease of 141-15-0 of land for 6 years to one Boonie Ram Mowhree of Gyah but a portion if not the whole of this land, is disputed by the Railway Company as being within the boundary leased to them.

6. As it was very evident that the Dewan and other servants of the Tekaitnees were doing all in their power to cause trouble and annoyance by denying the right of the Railway Company to the land that had been leased to them and that endless disputes would arise not only between the Tekaitnees and Railway Company but also between the two rival Companies if measures were not taken to prevent it I directed, for this purpose, Sona Ram the Dewan to point out to me the lands which had been leased to the Railway Company in the presence of both Mr. Cockburn and Mr. Deveria. The first named gentleman accompanied me for the three days was out but Mr. Deveria excused himself and only came out for a very short time the second day. The boundary pointed by Goorpoonkuj Lall the Tekaitnees' patwaree differs considerably from that pointed out by Ram Charn Lall Moonsee in the Railway Company's employ and who was present when the lands were taken and the peens put down on the boundaries, as you will perceive from the accompanying plan given to me by Mr. Cockburn. I must however remark that Goorpunkuj Lall's statement appears to me improbable in the last degree for it cannot be credited that the Railway Company would take lands where no Coal was known to exist merely upon the speculation that Coal might be found in the land and not take that where it was visible and that they should moreover allow marks to be commenced and continued on land not included in the pattahs without the least opposition.

7. In conclusion I beg to transmit an explanatory plan of the Coal field sent me by Mr. Cockburn and it is possible that coal may exist in other land than those already leased, or as in the case of Secrampore, in lands beyond the boundary of the Coal fields described in Mr. Clalland's map I have the honor to request, if the Commissioner

should direct a lease of the Coal fields to be taken on behalf of the Government you will inform me what had the expression of the land comprising the Kurburballee Coal fields alludes merely to those lands where Coal has been discovered or to other lands where it may exist, which being found would come under that denomination, and furnish me with a rough Draft of a Pattah that should be taken from the proprietors and what rent the Government would be willing to give for the land.

8. I beg to return the original papers as requested.

I have & ca.
(Sd.) A. G. Wilson,
Deputy Magistrate,

True Copy
(Sd.) Lieutt Col. I. Simpson,
Principal Asst. Commissioner,
Hazaribagh.

Year—1860.
No. 546

From,

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

To,

Lieut. Coll. I. Simpson,
Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazareebaugh.
Dated Chota Nagpore, the 24th April, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honor to annex for your information and for communication to Captain Thompson, a letter* from the Secretary to the Board of Revenue communicating the approval generally of the instructions issued by me to you regarding the Kodarma Settlement, and the arrangements made by me for the Settlement of the Khurrackdeah resumed mehals.

2. I annex copy of my letters† to the Board that you may be better able to follow their remarks upon it. You will be good enough to furnish Captain Thompson, without delay, with a copy of the correspondence. Your attention is called to the 3rd para of the Board's letter. There is nothing I think in my instructions to you that

*No. 22D/10th *Instant*.

†No 312D/12th March, 60,

would give rise to the belief that it was my intention to declare the tenures of Thikadars or farmers hereditary, but you will take care that such an impression does not go forth.

3. Under the instructions of the Board Pattahs must be given not only to all Jeebindari ryots, but also to *resident* Octur ryots, by which their lands should be secured to them at a fair rent according to the rate usually paid by such ryots.

4. On the 6th and 7th paragraphs I have to request you will favour me with a special report for the Board's information.

5. I have also to request you will report how in your opinion the modification directed by the Board in para 9 is likely to operate.

6. I am under the impression that the Thikadars prize their "Majeas" more than their commission and would be loath to abandon the former for any increase in the latter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

You most obedient Servant,

Sd/ E. T. Dalton

Commissioner, of Chota Nagpore.

No. 578

From

Captain E. T. Dalton

Commissioner of Chotanagpure.

To

Lieutenant Coll. I. Simpson

Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazareebaugh.

Dated Chotanagpure the 28th April, 1860.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 194 of the 23rd instant and other correspondence reagrding the Coal Mines in Kurhurbaree and the adjoining tracts of land I have the honour to request you will instruct Mr. Wilson, Deputy Magistrate of Burhee, to negotiate with the Tekaitnees of Kurhurbaree for a lease of all the land appertaining to their Gadee included within the limits represented by the black dotted line in map no 1 received with your letter, which as, containing the most valuable known Coal seams, it is desirable the Government should take up. The lease of Kolediha claimed in perpetuity by the Bengal Coal Company is to be conditional on her establishing in Court of Law that the right of conferring it is vested in her, not in the sub-proprietor or farmer—The other leases of four small blocks of land in

Sillighat, Ramuadih, Oपुरdena and Sigdurdih granted by the late Tekait to the Bengal Coal Company, the terms of which will expire in 1271 F. S. or in four years, are to be respected.

2. Mr. Wilson should also be directed to continue the negotiation with the Rajah of Seerampore for a grant of that tract of land in his estate promised by him to the Railway Company. This, if possible, should be obtained on more reasonable terms than those which the proprietor proposes and in regard to a disputed portion of it, conditional on his establishing his right against the claim made by the Tekaitnees of Kurhur-baree.

3. It is desirable that the negotiation should be continued in such a manner as will preclude the intermediate completion of arrangements with other parties by the proprietors and Mr. Wilson is authorised at once to accept the conditions offered by the proprietors should it be absolutely necessary for him to do so in order to secure the leases required on Government account.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most obedt. Servt.

Sd/—Illegible

Commissioner of Chotanagpore



ECONOMIC

No. 465

From

Captain G. H. Thompson,
Supdt. Revenue Survey,
Chotanagpur Division

To

The Deputy Commissioner of Hazareebaugh.

Dated, Hazareebaugh the 6th July, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your Memo No. 3040 of the 2nd Instt. forwarding me copy of a letter from the Commr. of Chotanagpur to your address, no. 814 dated 29th ultimo with copy of a letter from the Board of Revenue. L. P. to the Commr. no 45 dated 25th ultimo and with reference to the information called for by the Commr. from this Dept. I beg to state that as no classification of or enquiry into the description of wasteland suitable for the growth of cotton has been made on the Survey, I am quite unable to give any very accurate *figure data* on the subject for the portion of this district that has been surveyed.

2. All waste land is, of course, surveyed, and the survey returns stood the exact waste area of each village or Estate according as the survey has been made, Mouzawar or Mehalwar but a correct total of such waste area, within any particular village or estate or sub-division of the District will not be of much use on this particular enquiry as such an area would, of course, include every patch however small of all waste or grazing ground within every village.

3. I will not therefore enter into a statement of the total waste area of the Burhee Sub-division as handed to the South by the Grand Trunk Road which can however be given, if required, as the survey of that part of the district has been completed.

4. It will be more to the point to refer to the statistical registers of estates, which from the column of principal crops, denote the villages in which cotton is grown and from these I note in accordance with the order in which the estates have been surveyed as follows. In Kodarma out of 112 villages cotton is grown in 35.

| | | | |
|------------|--------|----|-------|
| Doomchanch | do 44 | do | do 16 |
| Musnoodhee | do 34 | do | do 8 |
| Khesmee | do 61 | do | do 33 |
| Khurkhar | do 11 | do | do 0 |
| Dhurgoon | do 25 | do | do 2 |
| Sutgawan | do 216 | do | do 28 |
| Gowan | do 223 | do | do 24 |
| Deotheen | do 31 | do | do 12 |
| Doroondah | do 200 | do | do 57 |
| Kiskoh | do 107 | do | do 27 |

In Chair out of 186 vils cotton is grown in 92

| | | | |
|--------------|--------|----|--------|
| Goomoo | do 203 | do | do 118 |
| Bursote | do 90 | do | do 47 |
| Murkutcho | do 74 | do | do 22 |
| Khurgallee | do 43 | do | do 20 |
| Dhunnoar | do 500 | do | do 74 |
| Bereeah | do 55 | do | do 1 |
| Ghorinjee | do 49 | do | do 21 |
| Luttakee | do 82 | do | do 3 |
| Khocksembur | do 27 | do | do 0 |
| Burkutta | do 53 | do | do 22 |
| Ledah | do 76 | do | do 36 |
| Kurhurbaree | do 99 | do | do 17 |
| Serampore | do 250 | do | do 23 |
| Jurreeah | do 95 | do | do 1 |
| Dhighee | do 79 | do | do 17 |
| Khoorchootah | do 138 | do | do 26 |
| Gandeh | do 108 | do | do 25 |
| Deopoor | do 62 | do | do 1 |
| Rampoor | do 271 | do | do 86 |
| Palgunge | do 388 | do | do 128 |
| Birnee | do 61 | do | do 23 |

Total out of 3941 vils Cotton is grown in 1035

5. The returns do not state how much cotton is grown in any particular locality but from my own knowledge of the ground having frequently traversed the whole of it within the last three years I think I am safe in saying that throughout Khurruckdeeha there is barely sufficient cotton grown and that of an inferior quality to supply the local wants of the illaqua. The people generally barter it by mere handfuls, for salt as oil with the Bunyahs. Small quantities of cleansed cotton can be brought from the bunyahs 3 Kutcha sers, or about 3721 ttrs. for the Rupee.

6. Speaking of the Burhee Sub-division as the portion of the District that has been surveyed Cotton is mostly grown on the estates of Chair Goomoo, Rampoor & Palgunge all of which border on, or one intersected by, the Grand Trunk Road. There are very considerable waste areas in all of these Estates and I am of opinion that with proper arrangements and European supervision, the soil of this hilly Jungly locality might be turned to very good account in the produce of Cotton.

7. There are also other hilly Jungly Estates, that have large waste areas and fine soil bordering or near the Valley of the "Sukree" river Viz Sutgawan, Musnoodhee, Gawan Ghorinjee and Khoorchootah, that might I think be made productive of good cotton, but there are at present no passable roads between these Estates and the Trunk Road, nor are there any decent roads that lead to the North towards the Ganges.

8. Having reported thus far on the northern portion of the Hazareebaugh District, that has been surveyed, I will now offer a few remarks on the southern or Ramghur portion that has not yet come under survey but over which I have moved, a good deal, on demarcation or other preparatory operations for survey.

9. This portion of the District which is on an average 1000 ft. higher than the portion to the north of the Trunk Road, is in my opinion the locality that will be found best suited for the growth of cotton. There is also much more waste land on it, than on any other part which I should say the present proprietors would gladly lease to any portion desirous of taking it up.

10. Cotton to a considerable extent is already grown in Purgh. Currunpoorah, Duttarah and Koondah on the western limits of the district near Chatrah. It is also grown a good deal in Purgh. Palame & Chungurra to the south on the Damoodah, and in fact it is grown all over the Ramghur Estate to a much greater extent than in Khurruckdeeah. I feel convinced that all along the Valley of the Damoodah, on both sides of which there are large tracts of hill lands now lying waste, the soil would be found to answer well for cotton, but until the country is well opened out by the construction of roads suitable to cart traffic no great increase on the present production can be expected. The small quantity that is now exported is chiefly carried on men's shoulders, *vanghy* fashion.

11. In Palamoow of the Lohurdugga or Chotanagpur District Cotton of very fair quality and to a considerable extent, is grown. The soil of the Purgh generally but more particularly in Tuppahs, Toree Barge, Muakherree Cheemoo Simeah, Doorajag Seemon, Poonday,

Matobe, Chucharee Beercole, Doothoo Kupper, Mundah, Oochree, Kutree, Aontaree being well adapted for its cultivation. The want of cart roads leading northwards to the cotton marts of Behar and Shahabad are also much felt in Palamow whereas in Ramghur a great quality of the cotton that is exported is carried by men the rest being packed on bullocks.

I have etc.
Sd/ G. H. Thompson, Cap.
Supdt. Revenue Survey,
Chotanagpur Dn.

No. 48

From

E. T. Trevor Esq.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue L. P.

To

The Commissioner of Revenue,
for the Division of Chota Nagpore.

Dated Fort William the 10th July, 1860.

Sir,

I am directed by the Board of Revenue to communicate the following observations on your annual Report for 1850/60 submitted under date the 12th Ultimo No. 831.

Land Revenue.
M. J. Allem &
A. Grote.

2. The state of the Land Revenue collections and balances seems to be much as usual. The Loharduggah balance is larger than it has been lately but the increase is satisfactorily explained, and is in no way attributable to any want of management on the part of the District Officer, Captain I. S. Davies, who is an excellent officer.

3. With reference to para 10 you should the Board observe be careful that all enquiries regarding balances said to be irrecoverable on account of losses sustained during the disturbances are completed as soon as possible.

4. It is satisfactory to find from para 11 that the arrangements made by the local authorities for the realization of the revenue of the Chota Nagpore Zemindaree have been attended with such complete success.

5. With reference to paras 16 & 17 the Board concur with you in thinking that the Principal Assistant Commissioner's explanation regarding the delay that has occurred in collection of the revenue of the Khurruckdea proprietors is altogether inadmissible. The tenures of

that Pergunnah are very lightly assessed and if the District Officers were efficient the revenue would be paid with punctuality.

6. There appears to have been great and unnecessary delay on the part of the Principal Assistant Commissioner in complying with your requisition on the subject adverted to in para 20. You will call upon Lieutt. Colonel Simpson to supply the required information within a certain given period and report to the Board if your order be not properly attended to.

7. The Board await the supplementary statement of appropriation of percentage on collections of Government Estates for Singhbhum. They wish to be informed if there are no Estates in Hazareebagh from which the 3 per cent allowed for local improvements may be taken.

8. With reference to paras 3 and 6 I am desired to state that all Collectors were specially instructed to prepare the business statement in the new form—The old form cannot be incorporated with the Board's General Statement. Your particulars and immediate attention is requested to the circular issued on the 3rd. instant No. 410.

9. The result of the Loharduggah Settlements described in para 39 seems to be very satisfactory.

10. Referring to your remarks in para 55 the Board concur in the opinion you have expressed of Lieut. Colonel Simpson—They are glad to observe that the other officers are all favorably noticed.

11. The Board are happy to bear testimony to the creditable manner in which your management of the Division has been conducted.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.) Illegible.

Secretary.

No. 5080/1860

From

The P. A. Commr. of Hazaribagh.

To

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur,

Dated, Hazaribagh the 15th Sept. 1860.

Sir,

1. With reference to the 3rd paragraph of your letter No. 365 24th of March last, I have the honor to refer you to my report No. 461 dated 24th August last in regard to the liability of the whole of the holders of the Ghutwallee Tenures and "Mocureree" villages of Khurruckdeea to make and keep up roads within their Estates.

2. I find exactly the same terms in the "Kaboliat" for Ramghur dated 25th March 1790 and in that for the Kendee Pergh. of the same date, a copy of these two documents are herewith annexed and it is worthy of notice that in both these "Kabuliats" the Rajas are held responsible for the peace of their Estates, the protection of travellers and being answerable for the apprehension of robbers and production of plundered property much in the same way as the holders of the tenures in Khurruckdeea were so considered.

3. The words in regard to keeping up roads or "Poollundee" in their respective Estates in regard to Ramghur and Kendee implies that the zamindars will promptly do so as was always customary from former times.

4. The extent to which this stipulation in their agreement have been heretofore demanded has however been little more than the District or formerly Zillah Officers when proceeding on tour regarding the different Rajas and other "Elakadars" to repair the roads of their Estates in such a manner as to render the progress of the Government Official through the country practicable.

5. There can be no doubt that the zamindars above referred to in this District might without any hardship be called upon to repair and keep up roads in their several Estates but how far the provisions of Act XXXII of 1860 would effect this claim as this law imposes a Tax on all profits of 1 per cent for works of Public utility seems somewhat doubtful and I would therefore be glad to be favoured with the opinion of superior authority on this point.

6. I take this opportunity of forwarding you 2 sunnunds as per margin with copy of a decisio . of the special Commissioner dated July, 1835 from which you will ascertain the nature of the tenure of the Koondah. Pargh. in this Division a rent free service Jageer with Police stipulations there is no *Kabuliat* apparently of this Estate from which any obligations to keep up roads could be ascertained but with this exception and the "Nankur" and "Kalsa" villages of Khurruckdeea the whole of the other tenures of this Division settled or renewed in A. D. 1790 and 1799 appears liable to a such demand.

Captain
J. Cammacks'
Sunnund D/2nd
Oct 1771 A. D.
and Sunnund of
Hunter, Ramghur
Collr. D/20th
Febry. 1798.

P. A. Commrs. Office,
Hazaribagh Dn.
The 15th Sept. 1860.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
(Sd.) Illegible.
P. A. Commr. of Hazaribagh.

No. 857.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Lt. Col. T. Simpson,
First Class Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh.
Dated, Chotanagpur the 6th July, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honour again to return the abstract statement of fluctuating Revenue received back with your letter No. 257 of the 1st instant as with reference to the list sent by you I find that most of them certainly appear in the general statement of resumed Mehals submitted by Captain Thompson as having been settled by him for 20 years from 1259 Fuslee or 1861/62. How then do you give them with their old Jummas and retain them on the fluctuating Towjee ?

2. The mehals of which Captain Thompson has effected a settlement appear on your fixed Towjee for the first quarter of the current year as mehals temporarily settled or let in farm. Koderma and Bugreedeesh must also be shown on your fixed Towjee under the current year as mehals temporarily settled or let in farm. Koderma and Bugreedeesh must also be shown on your fixed Taujee under the same heading and the irregular method of depositing and afterwards crediting the surplus land revenue no longer restored to but the rent derivable from the mica mines must be separately exhibited as an item of sayer or miscellaneous revenue.

3. If after making the above transfers you have any mehals the rent of which is fluctuating, you will be good enough to submit a fresh estimate with the least possible delay accompanied by a letter or statement showing why the rents are fluctuating.

I have the honor to be
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

No. 19.

From

Baboo Kalidas Palit,
Deputy Collector Assessor, Hazaribagh.

To

Colonel I. Simpson,
Deputy Commissioner 1st Class, Hazaribagh.

Dated Hazaribagh, the 29th Oct. '61,

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your office memo No. 459 of the 7th Instant with inclosures.

| | | |
|--------------|---------|--|
| | | 2. I beg to note in the margin an annual estimate of the probable amount of the Abkaree License, and other taxes that I think will be collected in this district, 8 per cent of which will be Rs. 12,000. Duty on Pawn and Tobacco which are cultivated here on a very small scale has been included in the license tax. |
| | Rs. | |
| Abkaree | 60,000 | |
| Income- | | |
| Tax | 60,000 | |
| License tax, | | |
| pawn and | | |
| Tobacco | 30,000 | |
| Total | 150,000 | |

3. The existing establishment under me for the collection of the Income and Abkaree taxes is noted in the margin which together with all other expenses amounted last year to Rs. 11,112-6-10 and falls short by Rs. 887-9-2 at 8 per cent on the collection now estimated to be realized from all these four taxes.

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| | Rs. |
| Abkaree Es- | |
| tablishment | |
| Sudder | |
| office | 55 |
| Mofassil | 276 |
| Total | 331 |
| Income tax | |
| office sudder | |
| office | 80 |
| Total | 411 |

4. With a view of providing for the objects mentioned in the correspondence, in the best manner and at the limited expense consistent with efficiency, I beg to propose a scale of establishment as per accompanying statement which if approved, will I think meet all the requirements. Here I also beg to add that commission of one per cent on the collections exclusive of the Abkaree be granted to the Darogahs and Mohurers in proportion to their respective salaries and that some registered peons be entertained in each Division for collecting the arrears of balances. With the aid of this new establishment, one Deputy Collector Assessor will, I think be able to collect the above mentioned four taxes with facility. Another Assessor Deputy Collector in my humble opinion, is not required to be posted at Khurruckdiha,

5. It is also desirable in my opinion for equalizing the collections of the four Divisions and for the better management of the business of this Department, to transfer two Pergunnahs to the Ramghur Division and one to the Chatra Division from the Hazaribagh Circle.

1 Chay
2 Inghesher &
Singapore.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Yours most obedient servant

(Sd.) Illegible.

Deputy Collector Assessor.

No. 14

From

Major E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur

To

H. L. Dampier Esquire
Secretary to the Board of Revenue, Fort William
Dated Camp Jurykella, the 4th January 1862.

Sir,

With reference to the Board's Circular No. 73 of the 21st ultimo I respectfully beg to solicit further instructions on the last clause of the 6 para in which it is ruled that cultivators who sell the produce of their land by retail are not to be exempted from license tax. If this is to be taken literally it will involve the taxation of the whole agricultural population of the Chotanagpore division, I know of no class of cultivators who do not sell the produce of their land by retail.

2. Most of the districts of Chotanagpur have a complete system of weekly markets at which all the surplus produce is as it is prepared or as the cultivators find they can spare it offered for sale by the producers.

3. It has always been with me a great object to increase the number of such markets and encourage resort to them. The mass of the cultivators are thus encouraged to sell or barter their produce in open market only. They are sure thus to obtain a fair value for what they have to dispose of ; they get more for it than they could by any private arrangement with mohajans and grain dealers and are kept out of the bondage and misery of the advance system.

4. If however cultivators were told that they could only so sell their produce on paying for licenses as retail dealers they would certainly

give up the practice so that after the first year nothing would be gained which the markets now a real blessing to the country would be shut up. The dissatisfaction and misery that this would cause in such a province as Chotanagpur in the whole vast extent of which territory there are only two or three considerable marts may be conceived.

5. There are no doubt cultivators who are also grain dealers selling more than they produce these if not assessed under the Income Tax Act should be required to pay for their licenses, but so long as a cultivator confines himself as a dealer, strictly to the sale of the produce of his own cultivation whether by wholesale or retail it would be I think contrary to the intentions of the framers of the bill and in the highest degree impolite to impose this tax upon him.

6. In regard to para 7 of the circular I would beg strongly to recommend that Commissioners of each division should be allowed to frame rules to guide Collectors and assessors in regard to persons to be exempted from inability to pay. It is not necessary that any vexatious enquiries regarding means should be made but considering that in this division common laborers may earn from 24 to 36 Rs. a year and skilled laborers from 48 Rs. and upwards I should fix 40 Rs. as the minimum of assessable earnings.

7. In the district under the lists of persons practising arts, trades and dealings have been for some time under preparation but to obtain all the information required to fill up the columns in Form A annexed to the circular, it may be necessary to recommence the work. If the information already obtained is sufficient for the purpose of assessment and identification I trust it will be considered of no importance if some of the columns as for instance "name of his father" are left blank.

8. It would appear from the "Number & names of person entered" wording of Form B that the monthly statements are to contain the names of all persons considered liable to the tax this I think can hardly be intended it would involve an amount of unprofitable waiting not anticipated when the proposition statements for establishment were submitted.

I have & ca
Sd/-E. T. Dalton
Commissioner of Chotanagpur

No. 3.

From

H. L. Dampier Esqr.,
Secretary to the Board of Revenue,

To

The Commissioner of Revenue,
for the Division of Chotanagpore,

Dated Fort William, the 29th January, 1862

Sir,

1. With reference to your letter No. 14 dated 4th instant, I am directed to state that the Board do not think that a 3rd class license tax will fall so heavily on ryots holding stalls at Hats as to discourage them from frequenting such places ; nor do they see the necessity of the rules which you propose to frame in para 6; the discretion of Collectors in exempting persons from liability to the Tax should be left unfettered.

Land Revenue
A. Grote
& Esqr.
A. K.
Young

2. Columns 6 and 7 of Form A (circular order) 73 dated 21st ultimo, were introduced for purposes of identification of the person assessed and to enable the assessor to trace him should he change his place of trade. If Collectors anticipate no difficulty in getting in the collections, in cases of change of residence & ca., without the information required in column 6 i.e. the name of assessee's father the information need not be pressed for.

3. From Circular order No. 4 dated 17th instant you will perceive that the words "and names" have been struck out of the 2nd line in Form B.

I have & ca.
(Sd.) H. L. Dampier.
Secretary.

JAIL

Simpson, Principal Assistant Agent Governor General and Superintendent of the Agency Jail wrote from Hazaribagh Jail (1852) on the 27th August, 1852 that the profits on the past year 1851-52 on convicts manufactures was Rs 566/1/-. One Mr. Turt was Daroga of the Jail for the whole of the period and saw to the introduction of trades amongst the convicts. Dr. Collins was the late Superintendent of Jail. The salary of Mr. Turt was only Rs 20/- per month.

Jail (1852) In another letter dated the 13th September, 1852, Simpson gives description of the Jail at Hazaribagh. There were three male wards of 125 convicts in each. Each ward had a verandah all round of 8 ft. in breadth. Female ward attached to the District Jail was capable of containing 20 female prisoners and had a verandah. The Dewani Jail also had verandahs all round and could contain 75 prisoners. There was a separate ward for the Hazat prisoners. There was a Hospital ward and three other rooms where insane parties or other prisoners required to be kept apart could be located.

There was a separate penitentiary or Agency Jail with two large wards. The penitentiary Jail was the beginning of the present Central Jail. The accommodation was for 164 convicts. There was a separate ward for the females. Simpson remarked that each section of the jail was capable of big extensions.

Jail (1853) A chart dated the 29th October 1853 shows that the diet of the convicts in Hazaribagh was as follows :—

Non-labouring :—

Morning meal :—Rice 5 chs. Dal 1 ch. Ghee Salt and Masala 1/8th ch. each.

Evening meal :—Rice 6 chs. Dal 2 chs. Vegetable 1 ch. Ghee, Salt and Masala 1/8th ch. each.

Working convicts :—

Morning meal :—Rice 5 chs. Dal. 1 ch. Ghee, Salt and Masala 1/8th ch. each.

Evening meal :—Rice 7 chs. Dal 2 chs. Vegetables 2 chs. fish or flesh 2 ch. Ghee, Salt and Masala 1/8th ch. each.

There used to be an Inspector of Police for the lower provinces in which Hazaribagh was included. In a report no. 33 of Jails (1856) 1856, a summary of the Inspection note is given. The recommendation was that the District Jail should be abolished as separate institution and amalgamated with the penitentiary. The Barracks should be improvised. There should be sufficient and clean food and proper time for the feed. The Women's Ward needed particular attention. A woman confined for life for the murder of her husband was employed as the cook of the women's ward and her paramour was also an intimate of the penitentiary and they could get together. The recommendation was that such condition should be done away with.

Major Simpson was the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh in 1856. W. C. Spencer was the Junior Commissioner of Assistant to the Commissioner, South West Frontier Hazaribagh posted at Hazaribagh. W. I. Allen was the Commander and Superintendent of Police, Chotanagpur. Superintendent of Police of Hazaribagh

No. 29.

To

Colonel Simpson, Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

From

W. X. Clark, Civil Assistant Surgeon.

Sir,

As there has been much difficulty about inspecting the prisoners on Sunday mornings—I shall feel much obliged by your directing the European Jailer to parade all the prisoners every Sunday morning at 8 A. M. and to report personally to me their presence. I feel convinced that this is the only way to carry out the Inspection at all satisfactorily.

I have had considerable experience of Jail management and never before had by my own exertions to try and get the prisoners together and then proceed to inspect them unattended and unnoticed by the Jailer who certainly ought to be present to give any information. I may require of any explanation I need.

Of the present last state of Jail discipline on their points the conduct of the "Mail Darogah" Sunday before last is a good example. On that occasion the native official not content with imitating his European Superior and calmly from a chair, witnessing my Sunday mornings employment of hunting up the prisoners from cook houses and other

places went a step farther and declined compliance with my request to bring some men to me that were standing at the Jail gate.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Hazaribagh,
July 27th 1861.

(Sd.) W. K. Alconer Clark,
Civil Assistant Surgeon.

No. 2. of 1862

Memorandum on the Hazaribagh Jail by Norman Chevers, M. D.,
Officiating Inspector of Jails Lower Provinces.

Camp-Hazareebaugh 6th January, 1862.

1. I visited and Inspected the Hazareebaugh Jail on the 4th, 5th
Inspection. and 6th of January, 1862 accompanied by Lieutt.
Colonel Simpson the Civil Assistant Surgeon, and the
Executive Engineer Officer.

2. The cleanliness and neatness of the Jail are most remarkable
General State. and exemplary.

The Civil Surgeon, very justly, urges the desirability of removing certain native huts, the resort of prostitutes, from the vicinity of the Jail and objects to the cultivation of Indian corn and other high crops in the adjacent fields. It appears, however, that the huts and their objectionable inhabitants could not be removed without litigation, and, pending the erection of a new Jail, it is desirable to avoid taking up more land near the old one. I think that the police and conservancy rules might be brought very strictly to bear upon the houses in question, and that, as arrangements are now being made for preventing the cultivation of objectionable crops in the neighbourhood of cantonments, these fields might be included in the stipulation.

A large building, originally constructed as a workshed is now occupied by prisoners as a sleeping ward. Its sides being closed in only by single Jhamps, this building is very insecure. Several escapes have occurred, and the prisoners are not sufficiently protected against the inclemency of the weather. The Magistrate has promised that estimates for bricking in the walls shall be prepared forthwith.

I visited the sleeping wards and carefully examined the whole of the night privies at four O'clock in the morning when the prisoners were asleep. The privies are kept remarkably clean, except the galleries leading to them were wet. The night soil falls through an iron grating into trucks which admit of being readily moved in and out of the

chambers underneath. As the bars of the grating are thick, night soil lodges upon them. I recommend that they should be covered with strong galvanised iron plates concave above and having two or three perforations a foot in diameter.

The sick poor of the station are now treated outside the Jail in a building for the reception of the sick of the police.

The earthworks of the new Jail are progressing but slowly on account of the extreme hardness of the rocky soil with the aid of the Executive Engineer Officer, blasting operations will shortly be commenced.

The materials for the new Jail are abundantly available on the spot—Excellent stone for the rubble foundation and for flagging may be readily obtained.

It has been arranged that the Executive Engineer Officer shall be requested to furnish an estimate of the cost of the new Jail that it may be embodied in the next Police Works Budget.

As the completion of the earthworks will require much time and labour, it appears very desirable that the buildings within should be commenced as soon as possible. The Executive Engineer Officer has obliged me by consulting the plan and by informing me that the work of erecting the Jail buildings would occupy about a year, the Magistrate proceeding with the excavation of the ditch at the same time.

I feel some delicacy in offering our opinion upon a subject which was, long since, desired by authority more competent than any own. Still I should fail in duty if I did not submit my conviction that Jail buildings upon the radiating plan are not adapted to the climate of India, they accumulate heat and do not admit of free perflation—The wards of all large Jails should be built in lines of echellon at a proper distance from each other, and facing the prevailing wind.

Having been informed, demiofficially, that it has been in contemplation to establish a prison for some 40 or 50 Christian prisoners at this station, I have thought it right to take this opportunity of selecting a proper site. Such a site was atonce, pointed out to me by Colonel Simpson, as having been on several occasions, recommended as a most eligible spot for building. I carefully examined it in company with the Magistrate, the Executive Engineer Officer and the Civil Surgeon—We unanimously decided that it is admirably adapted for the purpose in question.

It is situated in Chumpah Pergunnah, within the bounds of the village of Coalgattee, but widely removed from the native huts. It forms a ridge of very gentle elevation stopping away on all sides in such a manner as to allow of perfectly free natural drainage—The upper

soil consisting of discollegated quartz and kunkur, does not allow of the collection of moisture, but excellent water is obtainable at a moderate depth. The slopes, on all sides, would admit of being laid out as excellent gardens and yards for exercise. This spot is at a distance of about a quarter of mile from the site of the new Jail, a nullah runs equidistant between the two slopes, and would require to be permanently bridged at an expense the Executive Engineer Officer believes of not more than one thousand Rupees.

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----|
| Prisoners | There were in custody 432 prisoners of whom | |
| | 429 were males and | per |
| | 3 were females | |

432

of the above number :

Religion

388 were Hindoos
43 were mussalmans and
1 was a Christian

432

They consisted of

Classes of Prisoners.

Laboring Prisoners 387

Non-laboring-do 45

Civil do 5

Security do 13*

*with Labor

Hajut do .. 20

432

They were sentenced as follows :—

Sentences.

For more than 2 years .. 309

„ than 2 years and
above 1 year .. 68

„ 1 year and under .. 17

Civil prisoners till debt
is paid .. 5

Till security is furnished.. 13

In Hajut .. 20

432

| Employment of Prisoners. | The laboring prisoners were employed as follows :— | |
|---|--|-----|
| | In manufactures viz. | |
| As Weavers | .. | 16 |
| As Sutrunjee makers | .. | 12 |
| In making Tiles | .. | 13 |
| In weaving Gunny | .. | 29 |
| In weaving blankets | .. | 2 |
| In making morahs | .. | 1 |
| In the Jail garden | .. | 22 |
| In making bricks | .. | 13 |
| As carpenters | .. | 6 |
| As Basket makers | .. | 7 |
| In repairing Jail Buildings | .. | 30 |
| As Blacksmiths | .. | 3 |
| | | 108 |
| | On outdoor labor viz. | |
| In the new Jail | | 129 |
| As carters | | 3 |
| | | 132 |
| | As Jail servants viz. | |
| As Cooks | | 13 |
| As Dhobees | | 4 |
| As Barbers | | 3 |
| As Mehters | | 5 |
| As Sweepers | | 7 |
| Collecting leaves for prisoners to eat on | | 3 |
| | | 35 |
| Vaccinated Prisoners | .. | 14 |
| Sick in Hospital | .. | 32 |
| Convalescents employed in spinning twine | | 24 |
| As Hospital attendants | .. | 9 |
| | | 79 |
| | | 400 |

The value of the labor of the carpenters, Baskets makers and Blacksmiths should, (in as much as the work is done for the Jail) be credited to the manufacture Depart, as value of articles consumed for public purposes.

Canes—The material required for Basket making, appear to be got from the jungles about six miles from the station.

This practice is against rule and should cease and paid agency should be employed for the purpose.

The employment of convicts in collecting (of a distance of about 4 miles) leaves for the prisoners to eat on, should also cease, the leaves being purchased.

No prisoners should be employed as Dhobees except for the sick. Each prisoner should according to rule, wash his own clothes every Sunday.

According to a memorandum furnished it appears that from January to December last, 49, 277 prisoners have been employed in digging the trenches within which the new Jail is to be built.

The work accomplished in making due allowance for its difficulty does not seem to be commensurate with the labor employed.

9 Hospital attendants are too large a proportion for 32 sick in Hospital. At 10 percent the regulated number, the very utmost number should be 4.

4. They slept in the wards in the night previous to any visit as follows:—

| No. of Wards | Capacity | Number confined. |
|--------------|----------|------------------|
| No. 1 | 82 | 82 |
| No. 2 | 82 | 82 |
| No. 3 | 82 | 82 |
| No. 4 | 49 | 40 |
| No. 5 | 28 | un-occupied |
| No. 6 | 85 | 102 |
| No. 8 | 12 | 3 |
| Hospital | 60 | 41 432 |

5. The amount drawn from the Treasury for all expenses connected with the manufactures from May to December amounted to Rs. 761-5-9 and there were returned to the Treasury Rupees 1106-5-9, exhibiting, with an average laboring strength of 95 prisoners per day, a net profit of Rs. 344-6-9.

The manufactured articles and raw materials in store at the end of December amounted respectively, to Rupees 594-1-6 and Rupees 85-13-0.

6. The cost of the Jail for cost rations from May to December was as follows :—

For laboring prisoners—Rs. 5530-6-4 or 1a. 1½p. per head per diem.

For non-laboring do. Rs. 2002-7-4 or 0a. 11½p. do. do.

The contingent expenses amounted to Rs. 205-12-7.

The Bazar medicines cost Rs. 57-10-1 and the sick diet cost Rs. 48-12-4.

7. The food of the prisoners is purchased at the rates named below :

| Price current | | | Rs. | As. | p. | |
|---------------|----|----|-----|-----|----|---------|
| Rice | .. | .. | 1 | 8 | 0 | per md. |
| Dhall | .. | .. | 2 | 9 | 5 | do. |
| Oil | .. | .. | 9 | 6 | 7 | do. |
| Ghee | .. | .. | 22 | 13 | 9 | do. |
| Vegetables | .. | .. | 0 | 12 | 1 | do. |
| Salt | .. | .. | 5 | 11 | 5 | do. |
| Fire wood | .. | .. | 0 | 1 | 1 | |

8. The permanent Establishment consists of :—

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|-------------------|----|-----|---|---|
| Establishment | 1. | Darogah | .. | 50 | 0 | 0 |
| Permanent. | 1. | Naib Darogah | .. | 20 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1. | Native Doctor | .. | 25 | 0 | 0 |
| | 1. | Dresser | .. | 5 | 0 | 0 |
| | 2. | Daffadars @ 6/- | .. | 12 | 0 | 0 |
| | 25 | Burkundazes @ 4/- | .. | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Rs. | | | | 212 | 0 | 0 |

With the exception of the temporary reduced allowance to the acting Darogah, the permanent Establishment is the same as in 1860 when the Jail was last visited.

The present extra Establishment consists of

| | | | | | | |
|-------|----|-------------|-------|----|---|---|
| Extra | 1 | Jemadar | @ 8/- | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| | 15 | Burkundazes | @ 4/- | 60 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | 68 | 0 | 0 |

At the time of the last inspection of the Jail in January, 1860 the extra Establishment consisted of

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|-----|---|---|
| 1. | Daffadar @ 6/- | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| 42. | Burkundazes @ 4/- | 168 | 0 | 0 |
| | | 174 | 0 | 0 |

It will be seen that in the room of the Duffadar @ 6/- per mensem a Jamadar has been entertained at Rs. 8/- and that the services of 27 Burkundazes have been dispensed with. Thus affecting a saving of Rs. 106/-

9. A carpenter at Rs. 5/- per mensem, whose salary is paid from Hire Servants the Manufacture Department, is entertained to back the prisoners. He has been attached to the Jail for about a year without being successful in efficiently teaching the prisoner. It is time that his services should be dispensed with and that a convict versed in this work, should be obtained from some other Jail.

10. A detachment of the 35th Native Infantry perform the guard duties of the Jail. They consist of :—
Military Guard

1 Havildar
 1 Naik and
 20 Sepoys.

They furnish 4 sentries and are posted at the main gate the west-East corner of the Jail—at the back gate—and the South western corner of the Jail.

11. The Jail garden furnished, from May to December, 243 mds. Jail Garden 22seers and 4 chuttacks of vegetables valued at Rs.182-5-1. But in order to meet the wants of the prisoners, 49 mds. 38 Srs. and 14 cks. of vegetables worth Rs. 37-12-0 had to be purchased.

12. There are 25 mates and 4 Khilliburdars chosen from among the prisoners.

The duties of the mates consist of assisting the Burkundauzes in superintending the working of prisoners and attending Mates and Khilliburdars them when they proceed out of Jail during the day—at night 8 of them are placed in No. 6 Ward and 2 in each of the other wards. They have to report any sickness that occurs among the prisoners, as well as any quarrel or irregularity.

The indulgences allowed them are that they are exempted from labor and their irons, with the exception of a ring are taken off. This latter privilege should only be conceded in the cases of men whose conduct has long been very exemplary.

The Khilliburdars look after the lights at night, and see to the cleanliness of the wards in the day. No indulgences are allowed them.

13. There was 32 sick in Hospital suffering under the following Sickness : - diseases :—

| | | | |
|---------------|----|---|----|
| Of Abscess | .. | 4 | |
| „ Bronchitis | .. | 2 | |
| „ Dysentery | .. | 5 | |
| „ Hemorrhage | .. | 1 | |
| „ Fever | .. | 7 | |
| „ Hydrocele | .. | 3 | |
| „ Leprosy | .. | 1 | |
| „ Mania | .. | 1 | |
| „ Rheumatism | .. | 3 | |
| „ Sclerotitis | .. | 1 | |
| „ Ulcer | .. | 4 | 37 |

(75)

The daily average strength in Jail from January to December was 468. The number admitted into Hospital was 636 of whom 596 were discharged cured and 25 died exhibiting the following percentages :—

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Deaths to strength | .. 5.34 |
| Deaths to treated | .. 3.93 |
| Treated to strength | .. 135.89 |

Treated to discharged.....93. 71 showing a decrease upon the rates of sickness and mortality of the preceding year which were respectively 252. 33 and 14. 89 to strength.

Sd/- Norman Chevers,
Officiating Inspector General of Jails, L.P.
(True Copy)

Sd/-Illegible.
Deputy Commissioner of Hazareebaugh.



SANTHAL INSURRECTION

No. 54.

To

The Principal Assistant to the Commissioner of Hazaribagh.

Sir,

1. In reply to your letter No. 584 dated the 3rd November, annexing copy letter No. 478 from the Commissioner of Chota Nagpur, dated 10th November, I have the honour to state that I do not think it would be advisable just now to set at large the Santals under surveillance at Hazaribagh.

2. I have no positive proof of the Santal population of this district being in communication with the insurgents of Bheerbhoom and Bhagalpore, but the general impressions, both of the zamindars and myself is, that the whole Santal Tribe are thus affected, and only wait for an opportunity to you those now in open rebellions.

These people inhabit localities usually close to jungle, adjacent to mountains streams, and apart from other natives, so that little of their natives are shown and since this rebellious other sects of natives seem to have a dread of them consequently little, or no communication and their misdeeds are unknown.

Burhee
By Magistrate's Office.
The 13th November, 1853.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Sd.) Illegible.

No. 600.

From

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Captain E. Sissmore
Offg. Prinl. Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated - Camp Chyebassa, the 15th January, 1855.

Sir,

1. This day I have had the honour to receive your letter No. 11 dated the 8th Instant with enclosures and beg to inform you in reply, that I approve of the measures you have adopted towards the Santhals in Pergannas Jugessurpur, Rampoor, Singhpore and Tisree who are reported to be manufacturing arms and otherwise showing indications of disaffection.

2. There is probably much exaggeration in the statements of the petitioners, but it is desirable to obtain without delay as much credible information as possible regarding the proceedings of the Santhals in the Ramgurr Hills. I have therefore to request that you will immediately send some confidential and intelligent Native Officer to the Pergunnahs above mentioned to make inquiries into this matter. If it be true that these Santhals are making preparations to disturb the peace, you will have the goodness to proceed yourself forth-with to that part of the country with a Military Force sufficient to prevent the outbreak.

3. You are requested to institute very searching inquiry into the conduct of the Ammer's Department Hadgre Ishak, and he should not be permitted to return to the Mofussil till he has thoroughly cleared himself of these imputations.

4. Mohun Sonthal and Joyram Manjee should be immediately apprehended and kept under surveillance till they can be permitted to go at large without risk to the peace of the country.

5. Proclamation should be issued forthwith in the Pergunnahs above mentioned prohibiting, till further orders all blacksmiths and others from manufacturing arrows and other weapons of War of every description without the express permission of the authorities, and any wilful disobedience of this proclamation should be promptly and severely punished.

6. I have issued orders to the Maha Rajah of Ramgurr to afford the necessary aid and have called upon the service—Jagheirdars of the Ramgurr Estate to place at the Rajah's disposal the quota of armed men which according to the terms of their respective engagements they are bound to maintain.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

(Sd.) Illegible.

Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

It appears that a proclamation was issued under the signature of the Special Commissioner and asked the Sonthals to surrender within 10 days before any constituted authority and that they would be pardoned unless who would be proved to have been principal instigators and they had taken part in any murder. On the other hand insurgents remaining in opposition to Government after the issue of this proclamation would be visited with the promptest and severest punishment.

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal issued on 30th August, 1855, instructions to I. H. Mangles at Govindpur mentioning that Mangles had visited an encampment of Sonthals on the banks of the Barakar comprising about 6,000 or 7,000 persons. It was ascertained by the Lt. Governor that the unrest had definitely spread from Bhagalpur side. Many Sonthals had fled out without joining insurgents out of fear. The Lt. Governor encouraged the idea of Settlement of Sonthals in new jungle areas. As a matter of fact it was thought that the return of the Sonthals to Bhagalpur to reoccupy their lands would cause desertion by other inhabitants and the zamindars and raiyats of that part of the country would resent their coming back. Lt. Governor thought it would be mischievous to encourage the Sonthals to return to their former houses and that they should be asked to peacefully settle in the new areas. The proclamation, it was calculated ; might be useful to pacify such Sonthals who had not actually joined the insurrection actively but had been in it by force or under such circumstances all had left their villages out of fear.

No. 478.

From

Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

To

Captain E. Sissmore

Offg. Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated at the Chotanagpore the 1st November, 1855.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 562, dated the 29th Ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that the nine Santhals now under surveillance at Hazaribagh may be released as soon as you and the Deputy Magistrate at Burhee consider that they can be set at large with safety.

2. I wish to know whether the Santhals who came to Sirampore some time ago are still in Pergunnah Khurruckdeah, and if so, perhaps you will have the kindness to inform me how they have conducted themselves since they have been in your Division.

3. Be so good as to ascertain from the Deputy Magistrate at Burhee whether there is reason to believe that these fugitive Santhals have been in communication with the insurgent Santhals of Bhagalpore and Beerbhoom since they came into Khurruckdeah.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant

Sd/- Illegible

Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

No. 3108.

From

The Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpore,

Dated, Fort William, the 10th November, 1855.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward for your information Six copies of a proclamation issued under this date declaring Martial Law in the disturbed Districts.

I have & ca.

(Sd.) W. Grey,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

(True Copy).

(Sd.) Illegible.

Offg. Uncood Assistant to the Commr.

By the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

The 10th November, 1855.

Whereas certain persons of the tribe of Santhals and others, inhabitants of the Rajmahal Hills, of the Damin-i-Koh, and of certain Pergunnahs in the districts of Bhaugulpore, Moorshedabad and Beerbhom and owing Allegiance to the British Government, are, and for some time past have been, in open Rebellion against the authority of the Government and whereas soon after the first outbreak of the said Rebellion, a Proclamation was issued offering a free pardon to all who should come in and submit within a period of ten days, except ring-leaders and persons convicted of murder, notwithstanding which act of clemency, the great body of the rebels have not availed themselves of the offer of mercy thus held out, but continue in Rebellion wherefore it has become necessary for the speedy and effectual suppression of this Rebellion that advantage should be taken of the season to commence systematic Military operations against the Rebels, for which purpose it is expedient that Martial Law should be declared and that the functions of the ordinary Criminal Courts of Judicature should be partially suspended in the said districts.

It is hereby proclaimed and notified, that the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, in the exercise of the authority given to him by Regulation X. of 1804 and with the assent and concurrence of the President in Council,

does hereby establish Martial Law in the following Districts, that is to say :—

So much of the District of Bhaugulpore as lies on the right bank of the River Ganges.

So much of the District of Moorshedabad as lies on the right bank of the River Bhagirutee.

The District of Beerbhoom.

And that the said Lieutenant Governor does also suspend the functions of the ordinary Criminal Courts of Judicature within the Districts above described with respect to all persons, Santals and others, owing Allegiance to the British Government, in consequence of their either having been born or being residents within its Territories and under its protection, who after the date of this proclamation and within the districts above described, shall be taken in arms in open hostility to the said Government, or shall be taken in the act of opposing by force of Arms the authority of the same, or shall be taken in the actual commission of any overt act of Rebellion against the State.

And that the said Lieutenant Governor does also hereby direct that all persons, Santals and others, owing Allegiance to the British Government, who after the date of this Proclamation shall be taken as aforesaid, shall be tried by Court Martial and it is hereby notified that any person convicted of any of the said crimes by the sentence of such Court will be liable, under Section 3, Regulation V. of 1804, to the immediate punishment of death.

By order of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal.

W. Grey

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal

Calcutta, November, 10th, 1855,

Thos. Jones, "Calcutta Gazette" Office

In April, 1856 the building of the local Jail had been set on fire from the out side. The Sepoy Sentry station at the back of Santhal's Attack on the Jail the Jail Hospital and Malkhana had been fired on with arrows. The principal Assistant Commissioner thought that the mischief was done by some Barkandazes.

In 1856, there was a serious rising of the 'Chuhars' and Santhals. Santhal's Insurrection The Bullocks of the Bullock-cart Train were wounded. Urzies of Dumuar Rani and their Mukhtiar reported the direction taken by the Mutineers from Deoghar. It was mentioned that Major English with his force had proceeded onwards to Churparun.

In a letter dated the 16th March, 1856, from Simpson to Tweedi, Deputy Magistrate at Burhee, it appears that the administration was very anxious that the santhals of Bhagalpore and Beerbhoom should not be communicating with the Santhals of Hazaribagh district. Simpson felt that it was a general move of any rise amongst the Santhals and wanted that the detachment of European army immediately on arrival should proceed back to Kharugdeeha and a judicious posting of the troops for subduing the Santhals was called for. Tweedi was asked to hold his Camp Court at Kharugdeeha and Simpson wanted to take over the charge of the Grand Trunk Road Police during the time Tweedi would be away.

Regarding the marauding of the Santhal rebellion a request was made to the Principal Assistant to the Commissioner of Hazaribagh to station one company of Infantry at Kharuckdiah and another at Eliapore. The Burhee Deputy Magistrate had particular duty to look to the Santhal insurrection.

The Deputy Magistrate of Burhee reported that on the 9th of March, 1856 he got information from the Raja of Serampore regarding a Santhal insurrection. The Deputy Magistrate took some troops that had encamped at Chuckarda but they were unsuccessful in meeting the rebels. The Deputy Magistrate reported that the Raja of Sarampore was an imbecile and his property was confiscated together with the Gosain of Pattroi if there was any proof of his assisting the rebellions with supplies.

Mr. Tweedee, Deputy Magistrate quickly arrested a few Santhals more or less at random. He writes "I have arrested some Santhals who were concerned in the late illegal assembly and plunder parties, although, I have no evidence legal, to convict still I consider it my duty as a policy of the state to put restraint on these men by confining them at Burhee, until such time as it may be deemed expedient to act otherwise".

On 15. 4. 1856, Tweedee, Deputy Magistrate at Burhee informed the Principal Assistant to the Commissioner of Hazaribagh that the Santhals had assembled in different parts of Gadee Doranda Kespo. A visit was made but the people denied having seen any assembly of the Santhals. Tweedee stayed back at the place although he thought the report was false.

The small insurrection of the Santhals started occurring at different places very soon. It was difficult to assess if the zamindars were not secretly helping them although the information of the assembly at different places was mostly coming from the zamindars themselves.

On the 1st of April, 1856, Tweedee forwarded a few Sonthal prisoners under arrest on the charge of illegally assembling with arms and plundering property.

It was soon noticed that small groups of Santhals were proceeding at various direction in a peaceful manner and it was difficult to arrest them on any ground. The zamindars were made alert to keep a careful watch on the situation. On all sides detachment of troops were persuing the Sonthals groups.

A letter dated the 23rd December, 1855, from Simpson to the Commanding Officer, Dinapore Division and Santhal Field Forces mentions that the Santhals who had been located for some time at Laida in Kharugheeha were making a movement back to their homes in Bhagalpur.

No. 588.

From

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur,

To

Captain E. Sissmore

Officiating Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated Camp—Poruleah the 3rd January, 1856.

Sir,

With reference to my letter No. 478 dated the 1st of November last I have the honour to acquaint you, that I see no necessity for any further detention of the nine Santhal Manjhees now under surveillance at Hazaribagh.

2. From the inquiries which I made whilst I was in Khuruckdehah I am disposed to believe that the Santhals who entered that Pergunnah in the month of August last had been engaged in the insurrection, and they appear to have been in connection with the rebels after they took refuge in your Division.

3. These nine Santhals ought, I think to be sent to the Magistrate of the District to which they belong with instructions to release and send them to their homes provided they are not charged with any criminal offence in their own District.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) Illegible.

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence. Volume, 1856-57

1. Letter No. 682 from the Commissioner of Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh dated the 16th March, 1856 referred to the Santhal insurrection. The Commissioner thought that if the Bhagalpur and Beerbhoom Santhals could be prevented from entering Khurruckdeeha and tampering with the Santhal population of that Purgannah Santhals in the Hazaribagh district will be kept in check. A commanding officer of Ramgarh local Forces had been sent to Khurruckdeeh with 100 sepoys, 30 sowars with an European Officer to keep the Santhals in check. The direction was given that "any insurrectionary movement is to be suppressed at once by force, and all marauding parties are to be attacked and dispersed, and as many as possible of the marauders are to be taken prisoners and brought to trial immediately". It was mentioned in the letter that the Serampore Raja had been furnishing the rebels with supplies as there was an intimation to this effect. The Commissioner wanted to know if this matter had been enquired into.

2. Letter No. 612 dated the 21st January, 1856 from the Commissioner of Chotanagpur to Captain Sissmore, Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh mentioned that the reward of Rs. 50/- be declared for the apprehension of Arjun Manjhi the rebel. Arjun Manjhi appears to have been captured already as the protection was given that he should be asked regarding his supposed communication with the Santhals of Bhagalpore and Beerbhoom. A copy of the deposition of Pirchi Santhal was sent and the Principal Assistant Commissioner was asked to call upon Arjun Manjhi to explain the circumstances which seem to indicate that he was in communication with the rebellious Santhals of Bhagalpur and Beerbhoom districts.

3. Letter No. 622 dated the 28th January, 1856 from the Commissioner to the Principal Assistant Commissioner also refers to the Military troops. It was mentioned that "the proceedings of the Santhals located in the Ramgarh hills ought to be closely and judiciously watched, in order that you may obtain early intimation should any symptoms of disaffection appear among them".

4. Letter No. 622 from the same source of the destination dated the 28th February, 1856 mentions that the two Companies of the 44th Regiment of Native Infantry were to halt at Burhee till further intelligence is received regarding the reported insurrectionary movements of the Santhals in the Purgannah Khurruckdeeha.

5. In another letter dated 3rd March, 1856, it was ordered that an efficient and experienced Police Daroga should be placed at Thana Khurruckdiah immediately and that Mr. Tweedee's conduct was very unsatisfactory. It was mentioned further that Parwanah had been addressed to the Serampore Raja and all neighbouring proprietors calling upon them to render every assistance.

Volume VII—Hazaribagh district old correspondence during 1856-57 kept in the Record Room of the Commissioner, Chotanagpur Division, Ranchi has some important correspondence regarding the Sonthal insurrection of 1856 as well as regarding the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857.

By May, 1856, attempts were made to restore confidence amongst the Santhals and for this the co-operation of the Tikaits of the Pargnah was invited. Food was to be given to all who were willing to work and who have not been ring-leaders in any affray or sharers in any heinous crime such as dacoity or murder.

It appears that on the 29th April, 1857, Mr. Tweedee and Lt. Ryan were involved in a fight with a party of Santhals at village Chutroo. The Deputy Magistrate had shot a ring-leader at which the Santhals had made a rush. The Sowars immediately fired their carbines. Two of Tweedee's men were killed. The Deputy Magistrate was also slightly wounded in the back. The Santhals numbered about 100 or 150 men.

The policy that was followed appears to be a simultaneous and firm action to put down the rebellious Santhals as to try to win them over to give them employment and resettle them as quickly as possible. The Santhals were generally threatening and trying to blackmail the Tikaits. A sum of Rs. 400/- was demanded from the Tikait of Gowa in lieu of plunder.

No. 184 of 1857, dated the 29th April, 1857 to the officiating Commissioner of Chotanagpur is an important letter. It mentions that the Santhals were exceedingly simple and ignorant and quite unacquainted with or unable to comprehend the most simple accounts and the Mahajans and Zamindars took advantage of their ignorance by cheating them both in money transactions and arrangements in holding the land. They were frequently being dispossessed of lands through law court which they had cleared from jungle. The letter wanted that special authority be conferred on the Deputy Magistrate of Burhee in whose jurisdiction the holding of the Khuruckdiah district was situated to dispose of these cases on merits and also investigate the oppression of the Mahajans complained by Santhals.

To

The Deputy Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Sir,

I am directed by the court of Presidency Nizamut Adawlut to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated respectively the 22nd of December last and 18th instant with the proceedings held on the trials of Bhyroo Manjee and others charged with riot and to transmit to you the accompanying extract from the proceedings of this Court of this date for your information and guidance.

The Court desire that you will issue your warrant to the proper officer to carry the sentence passed upon the prisoners into execution instructing him at the same time to call prisoners before him and to make them acquainted with the sentence passed on them.

The original proceedings of the committing officer are returned under separate covers.

Copies of the remarks of the Presiding Judges on the trial are herewith sent in duplicate, one for record in your office and the other for communication to the committing Officer.

I have etc.

Sd/- A. W. Russell,
Registrar

Extract from the proceedings of the Presidency Court of Nizamut Adawlut, under date the 27th March, 1857.

Present

G. Lock, and
H. V. Bayley,
Offg. Judges.

Enquiries.

Read letters No. 38 and 7, dated respectively the 22nd of December last and 18th instant from the Deputy Commissioner of Chotanagpur; and the proceedings held on the trial of Bhyroo Manjee and others, No. 1 to 3 charged prisoners No. 1 in the 1st court, with riot attended with the wilful murder of Poorun Singh Duffadar and Ram Charn Pandey Sower, and in the 2nd court, with illegally and riotously assembling with offensive weapons for the purpose of plunder or to commit a serious breach of the peace; prisoner No. 2 firstly with being an accomplice in the above mentioned crimes with prisoners No. 1 and secondly with having in his possession a ring, the property of Poorun Singh Deffadar, deceased, well knowing it to have been acquired by the murder of the said Deffadar and Prisoner No. 3 with having in his possession a gun, the property of

Ram Charan Pandey sower deceased, well knowing it to have been acquired by the murder of the said sower.

The court having duly considered the proceedings held the above trial, convict prisoner, Lattaie Manjee of being an accomplice in the crimes charged in the first and second courts, and the prisoner, Cungoo Manjee, of having in his possession property, well knowing it to have been acquired by murder; and sentence them to be imprisoned with labour and irons, Lattaie Manjee for fourteen years and Cungoo Manjee for three years, both from the present date :—

The Court observe that the prisoner Bhyroo Manjee is reported to have died in Jail on the 10th instant.

True Extract.

Signed & sealed by orders of the
Nizamut Adawlut.

Seal of the Niz. Adawlut.

(Sd.) A. W. Russell
Registrar.

True Copy.

(Sd.) Illegible
Deputy Commissioner, Chotanagpur.

Some of the correspondences indicate that there was a considerable amount of unrest amongst the Santhals. Santhals armed with bows and arrow used to assemble secretly and plunder. Sikhs and Ramgarh battalion used to be deputed to disperse the Santhals. The Ramgarh Raja reported in September, 1857, about the rise of Santhals at various places with a Rupa Manjee as their leader.

The volume of correspondence of letters issued from Hazaribagh on the 24th September, 1857 is also important. Simpson reported to Captain Oakes, Principal Assistant Commissioner of Manbhum that he was trying to contact the Headmen of the Santhals and to establish a contact so that the Santhals are won over and severe outrages on the Gola and other Parganas of the Division would be minimised.

The letter dated the 4th October, 1857 from the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh to Captain Dalton Officiating Commissioner, Chotanagpur gives the course of the Sepoy Mutiny in Hazaribagh District. This is an important letter.

In a letter to Captain Dalton, Officiating Commissioner, Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur dated 7. 8. 1857 Mr. J. S. Davies, Senior
Hazaribagh Assistant Commissioner, Lohardaga Division, Incharge Hazaribagh reported that on the 31 July there was a mutiny of the

troops at Hazaribagh and the mutineers marching direct on the station of Ranchi. The treasure and all Government property had been removed to the lines of the Ramgarh Battalion. Davies took the temporary charge of Hazaribagh Division on the 4th instant. He found the Treasury quite empty and the records partially destroyed. The treasure has been carried out of the district by the mutineers and there was little hope of recovering even a portion of the stamps and postage.

In another letter No. 22 of 1857 Mr. F. Simson wrote to the Inspector of Jails, Fort William without any date there is a reference to the number of prisoners that had not yet been re-apprehended. It is also mentioned that the mutineers on the day of the outbreak carried off both the native doctors and nearly all the medicines of the penitentiary.

In another letter No. 50 dated the 17th September, 1857 Simson informed Dalton, Officiating Commissioner, Chotanagpur that armed Santhals came into a clash with a detachment of 70 Sikha including 10 men of the Ramgarh Battalion. The Raja of Ramgarh had also informed about an uprising of Santhals. One Rupoo Manjee was the leader of the rebels. Rupoo's house was burnt to the ground. A reward of Rs. 100/- was declared for the capture of Rupoo.

In another letter it was mentioned that the Maharaja of Ramgarh had repeatedly asked for detachment of troops to be stationed at Gomia and Ramgarh. It was also apprehended that the Budmashes in or near the Jaipur Estate in the Manbhum District which borders the Gola area and the Chuhars within the jurisdiction of thana Jhalda may also eventually be led to participate in the lawless proceedings of the Gola Budmashes. The necessity for a strong military force sufficient for the occasion was impressed in order to make "an example of some of the savages who have been guilty of the most heinous atrocities in that part of the division." It was further mentioned in the same letter "the effect of a detachment of the force in progress to Chotanagpur proceeding by Badam and Jugsura would also be beneficial in opening that line of communication on which the Dak must be again established and which since the mutiny has been much infested by plunderers.

In letter No. 52 dated the 18th September, 1857 Simson informs A. R. Young, Secretary to the Government of Bengal that as the wing of the field force with Captain Dalton, Officiating Commissioner has left the station Chotanagpur and he was the only Officer at Hazaribagh possessing the powers of trying heinous offences under Acts XIV & XVI of 1857 he wanted to know if the special powers could not be given to the Sub-Assistant Commissioner of the District and the Deputy Magistrate,

Burhee to commit heinous offences throughout the district for trial to his court.

**Old Correspondence Guard File, Commissioner's office, Ranchi
1857-58 to 1859-60. (Letters received commencing from 1-8-57
to 21-10-58)**

No. 1555 dated the 1st August, 1857 mentions that the Principal Assistant of Lohardagga was appointed to be a Commissioner under section 7, Act XIV of 1857 in Lohardagga.

Circular No. 1792 dated the 15th August, 1857 clarifies the effect of the declaration of Martial Law and of the extension of Act XIV of 1857 on the jurisdiction of the ordinary Criminal Courts of the district to which those measures are applied.

It was mentioned that the declaration of Martial Law does not affect the executive functions of the Magistrate. As regards the higher Criminal Courts their functions are suspended by the declaration of Martial Law and all heinous offences must be tried by the Commissioners appointed under Act XIV of 1857. In other district the extension of Act XIV of 1857 is not necessarily in effect on the jurisdiction of the Sessions Judge; but in all the districts to which that Act has been extended, the Sessions Judges have been vested with powers under Act XIV and it was a wish of Government that all cases arising out of or connected with the disturbed state of the country should be tried by them in the capacity as Commissioners, and all other cases in ordinary course in their capacity as Sessions Judges.

No. 4547 from the Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to Government of Bengal dated Fort William the 13th November, 1857 called for a list with a descriptive roll of the persons who had taken leading part in the rebellion in the Province of Bengal indicating at the same time the parentage of the parties.

Letter No. 3973 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner dated the 21st November, 1857 shows that the disbanded Sepoys and State Mutineers were on no account permitted to find their ways into Government employment. This, however, did not mean that the natives of Upper Provinces should never again be employed in the Bengal Police.

Circular No. 100 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner mentions that every case of Sepoy convicted of Mutiny for any Section Capital punishment should be awarded showing the grounds for awarding such sentence,

No. 283—from the Secretary to Government of India to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal dated Allahabad the 13th March, 1858 mentions that Mr. J. C. Wilson was put at the head of a Commission that was created for apprehension and punishment of Mutineers and Rebellious in the N. W. Provinces, Oudh, South India and Bengal. The primary business of the Commission was the detection, trial and punishment of the mutineers. It was not intended that the Commission should be spending time in hunting out people who had been in rebel. These duties were to be performed by the District Officers.

No. 1280—from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner, Chotanagpur, dated Fort William the 30th March, 1858 mentions the receipt of a letter reporting the dispersion of the Nauaghur insurgents and the capture of their two leaders Bishwanath Sahi and Ganpat Rai which had the effect of restoring order and tranquillity in the Lohardagga district.

A list of Corps that had mutinied or been disarmed that was circulated by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal mentions that the following corps had mutinied or been disarmed :—

1. First Native Infantry-Mutinied at Dinapore.
2. „ „ „ „ „ Mutinied at Dinapore
3. „ „ „ „ „ „ „ Hazaribagh
4. 12th Irregular, Cavalry „ „ „ Segowlee.
5. Ramgarh Battalion „ „ „ Chotanagpur.

Act XXV of 1857 to render officers, soldiers in the Native Army liable to forfeiture of property for the Mutiny and to provide for the adjudication and recovery or forfeiture of property in certain cases was circularised along with a Despatch no. 4 of 1858 dated the 2nd June, 1858.

Judicial Notification dated Fort William the 15th June, 1859 extended Act VIII of 1859 for simplifying the procedure of the Courts of Civil Judicature not established by the Royal Charter to the Hazaribagh, Lohardagga, Manbhoom and in the South West Frontier Agency.

Circular No. 2382 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner dated the 17th June, 1859 mentions that careful watch should be kept on all religious mendicants or other vagrants and to retain in custody all such as are not expected to give satisfactory account to themselves or to find security for the good conduct. It was mentioned “as these people are known to convey letters concealed about

their persons or in the hollow of their *Latties* the clothes and other articles of those persons to whom any suspicion attaches should be strictly watched and where any evidence of sedition is discovered the culprit should be immediately tried and dealt with Law."

No. 3118—from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner of Chotanagpur dated the 11th August, 1858, acknowledges the receipt of a letter reporting the defeat and dispersion of the rebels in the Palamau district and to spread actions in the latter of which a party of Takoorae Kishandayal Singh's people succeeded in capturing a Havildar of the late Ramgurh Battalion and giving them account of the gallant defence of the Bungur Thana against a body of 900 men who was ultimately forced to abandon the attack.

A statement of cases tried under Act XIV of 1857 and 1858 in the Division of Chotanagpur mentions the following cases among others:—

1. Koreban Ally and Balgovind Shahi for "rebellion and causing the proclamation of the Padshahee Raj on or about the 4th August, 1857" were transported for life and forfeited all their properties. Koreban Ally was the Jamadar of the Principal Assistant in the Collectorate Department. At the instance of the mutinous sepoys of the Ramgarh Battalion he had caused the proclamation to be made. They were along with another Nuthi Khan separately imprisoned for 14 years for having taken service under the Mutineers of the Ramgarh Battalion and of having joined in various acts of plundering.

2. Tikayat Omrao Singh, Brij Bhukhan Singh, Sheikh Bheekharee, Chama Singh, Siboo Singh, Ramlall Singh and Bijai Ram Singh were prosecuted for rebellion and closing the Ghats. Tikayat Omrao Singh and Sheikh Bheekharee were given capital sentence and forfeited the property of every description while the other persons were acquitted. The execution of the sentence was carried out on the 8th January, 1858. The two persons had attempted to prevent the return of the Government officers with troops to Chotanagpur by closing the Chotoo Paloo and Charoo Ghats. The prisoners Chama Singh, Siboo Singh were sentenced to 7 years labour for plundering. The judgment in all these cases were delivered on the 6th January, 1858 and the capital sentence was executed on the 8th January, 1858. No time was lost in executing the sentence.

3. Seetum Chaudhary was convicted on 12th January, 1858 to 10 years hard labour and a fine of Rs. 250/. He was Bazar Chaudhary in Ramgarh Battalion and after the mutiny of the Regiment and the departure of the officers from the station had plundered the property of Lt. Reeves to the value of Rs. 250/.

4. Thakoor Bishwanath Sahi of Lohardagga district was sentenced in April, 1858 to Capital punishment and forfeited all his property. The remarks against him run as follows :—

“The prisoner who is one of the most influential zamindars in Chotanagpur joined the Mutineers of the Ramgarh Battalion immediately after the Corps had mutinied and having received a sum of money from the native officers, caused the Ghats to be closed in order to prevent the return of the Government officers to the district. The prisoner more over promised to give the Sepoys *Badshahee pay*. The prisoner also seized some wealthy merchants and caused them to be plundered and ill-treated them with the purpose of extorting the sum of Rs. 25,000/- to enable him to fight against the Government. After the defeat of the Ramgarh Battalion at Chutra the prisoner returned to Chotanagpur and a large body of men having been collected by him, several villages were plundered and the Government Thana at Barwa was burnt. The prisoner had assembled a force of 1100 men with the view of attacking the town (Lohardagga) and arrived close to that place when the Principal Assistant who was stationed with some Sowars at Lohardagga made a night march and captured the prisoner who was hanged by the orders of the Court on the 16th April last.”

5. Pande Ganpat Rai who was formerly a Dewan of Maharaja of Nagpur but had been dismissed some years ago was elected Commander-in-Chief by the Mutineers, and came to Doranda. After the defeat of the Mutineers at Chutra Ganpat Rai returned to Chotanagpur and with Thakoor Bishwanath Sahi engaged in plundering several villages and burning the Government Thana at Barwa. This prisoner was also with Thakoor Bishwanath Sahi in his attempted attack on Lohardagga. He was also arrested and sentenced capitally by the Court on the 21st April, 1858 and *hanged on the same day*.

6. One Raja Asman Singh along with others were prosecuted for plunder but were acquitted. There was a series of cases against him.

7. Buhoran Singh was an escaped convict who joined the rebels Thakoor Bishwanath Sahi and Ganpat Rai with a body of 200 armed men. He had taken part mainly in burning the Thana at Barwa. He was planning to attack the Principal Assistant who was camping at Lohardagga. When Bishwanath Sahi was arrested the prisoner escaped but shortly was seized and found guilty and was hanged on the 5th January, 1858.

Old Correspondence, Commissioner's Office, Ranchi Guard file 1857-58 to 58-59. Letters received commencing from 25-8-57 to 20-12-58.

Letter No. 1434 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Secretary to the Government of India Military Department, dated Fort William the 25th August, 1857 mentions that the Lt. Governor had reasons to believe that amongst those who had joined the insurgents under the rebel Kooer Singh of Jagdishpoor were military pensioners of Government and inhabitants of Bhojpur. This matter should be investigated. It was suggested that all the pensioners in Bihar should present themselves within a given period before the officers through whom their pensions were given.

An extract dated Camp Ranchi, the 1st November, 1857 signed by the Commanding Field Force, Ranchi gives a long list of all sepoys of the Ramgarh Light Infantry Battalion that were transported for a period of 7 years and some to 14 years for rebellion. The orders were given by in a Court Martial held under the provisions of Act XIV of 1857 and by Major Mac Donnel, Commanding Field Force of Ranchi, Chotanagpur.

Letter No. 7 from the Principal Assistant Commissioner Manbhoom to the Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga dated Purulia, the 1st October, 1857 gives a list of the headmen who had plundered in Jaipur, Kaspal and Gola Parganah in the district of Manbhoom and Hazaribagh.

In the same volume there are other extracts from the proceedings of an European General Court Martial where by order of Major G. G. Mac Donnel Commanding Field Force was given. There are long lists of Sepoys including Hindus and Mohammadans belonging to 9th, 1st, 10th, 3rd, 8th, 6th, 4th and of the Ramgarh Light Infantry that were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. Orders were also passed for the forfeiture of their property.

Letter No. 67 from the Officiating Commissioner of Chotanagpur to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Fort William dated the 19th April, 1858 mentions that the great landed proprietors and Rajas of Garjat Mahals were passively loyal. It was further observed that if they had actively co-operated there would not have been further disturbances in Chotanagpur from the date of their occupation in their districts. They did nothing and it was rather likely that they had secretly aided and encouraged the rebellions. But it was mentioned that the mass were favourable to Government. Although the tribals who had given up their predatory habits had taken advantage of the disturbances. Rewards that had been offered for the apprehensions of guilty

persons did not have any effect. Not a single instance of arrest was due to their help. It was always the Military or the Police without the help of the people that had captured the rebellious people in the hilly tracts. The Ghatwalis and the villagers had exploited the situation. A suggestion was made that the system of Police depending for the success on the zeal and energy of the various classes or proprietors and the holders of service should be substituted by management by the British Officers. It was felt that this should be enforced in Hazaribagh, Lohardagga, Manbhoom and Singhbhoom.

Letter no. 91 from the Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga dated the 28th June, 1858 mentions that Bishwanath Sahi who had been hanged for rebellion had some endowments and claims in the Jagarnath temple in his confiscated estate. The priest had laid claims to the temple and some property. Capt. Davies, Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga was asked by the Commissioner of Chotanagpur in his letter no. 91 dated the 21st June, 1858 to separate the village of Jagarnathpur from the rent paying portion of the confiscated estate and make it over to the priest to the service of the temple.

In his no. 152 dated the 25th October, 1858 the Commissioner of Chotanagpur informed the Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga that the confiscated estates of the late rebellions of Thakoor Bishwanath Shahi and Ganpat Rai should be carefully administered. The widow and the children of the late proprietor should be informed that they will obtain no assistance and they should not be allowed to reside in the old Gurh at Hatia.

Hazaribagh old Correspondence Volume 91 P—1857-58 (Receipt)

Memo no. 90A from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Principal Assistant at Hazaribagh dated Fort William, the 20th June, 1857 empowered the Principal Assistant with the powers under Section (ii) Act XVII of 1857 to try for Mutiny or Desertion, wherever the offence might have been committed. This Act empowered the Principal Assistant to sentence persons convicted of mutiny or desertion to both transportation for life or in the case of private soldiers to imprisonment with or without hard labour for life or in term of the years.

Copy.

Remarks by the presiding Judges on the trial of Bhyroo Manjee and others :—

Prisoner no. 1 Bhyroo Munjee has died since the trial was referred to this Court. The evidence for the prosecution, and that of the Sowars

actually on the spot, clearly proves the first charge i.e. being an accomplice in riotously assembling, armed against the peace, in respect to the prisoner No. 2. But that same evidence equally shows that prisoner laid down his arms at the very first on being called upon to do so; that he did not take them up again, that he was not seen as others were to join in the attack upon the sowars but frequently that is when Mr. Tweedie having had some abuse from Kaloo Manjee struck him and fired his pistol at him, and ordered the sowars to fire and the attack commenced in which two Sowars were killed. Further Prisoner No. 2 is guilty of the second charge against him i.e. having Poorun Singh's ring knowing it to have been acquired by his murder.

This prisoner has also been convicted of plundering in two cases. He is a Southal Soobha. The Deputy Commissioner recommends transportation for life beyond sea with *hard* labour and irons after carefully considering the clear and apparently truthful evidence of the Sowars. We think that there are mitigating circumstances in the conduct of this prisoner, in at once giving up his arms, in consenting to do so, in not being seen thereafter attacking the troops (which attack the evidence shows would most probably never have taken place but for the unfortunate altercation with and pistolling of Kaloo Manjee). We think that fourteen years imprisonment with labour and irons as sufficient punishment :—

In regard to Gungoo prisoner No. 3, the charge against him is clearly proved. But as it is the only charge against him, we think that three years imprisonment with labour and irons will be a sufficient punishment.

We sentence the prisoners accordingly :—

(True Copy)

Sd./ Illegible.

Registrar,

Sd./ G. Lock.

„ J. V. Bayley,

Offg. Judges, 27th March, 1857.

The letter dated the 4th October, 1857 from the Principal Asst. Commissioner of Hazaribagh to Captain Dalton, Officiating Commissioner, Chotanagpur gives the course of the Sepoy Mutiny in Hazaribagh district. This is an important letter.

The Correspondence Volume No. 34 has some important letters in 1858, and throw a considerable light on the after effects of the Sepoy Mutiny. In a letter dated the 7th May, 1858, Simpson, Principal Assistant Commissioner reported to Buckland, General Secretary to the

Government of Bengal that he thought Act XII of 1858, should be extended to Hazaribagh district as the number of prisoners in jail chiefly implicated in the disturbance of 1857, was very considerable. By the extension of the enactment many minor criminal cases could be summarily dealt with. Simpson mentioned that the strong measures taken to put down the disturbances had resulted in the district being, for the time being, free from burglary, theft and such other cases.

Bullock Train Carriages were frequently referred to as the chief mode of conveyance for military detachment. Hazaribagh was a clearing station for the military and frequent requisitions were made for the supply of meat, ata, rice, fuel, cots and other commodities for the passing detachments. A class of traders sprang into existence for only supplying such articles to the military.

It appears that the German Missionaries at Hazaribagh suffered much on the outbreak of the Sepoy Mutiny on the 30th July, 1857. Rev. H. Batezch preferred a claim for the losses. Another gentleman Mr. Liebert who was a German and grew coffee acquainted the Principal Assistant Commissioner with the concrete losses to the Mission premises. The amount of claim was Rs. 2765/. This claim was up held by Simpson.

A report from Simpson dated the 18th Augst, 1858, mentions that the whole of the records of Hazaribagh office, criminal, civil and fiscal were disordered, scattered about and some destroyed by the Mutineers on the outbreak of the Mutiny on the 20th July, 1857. Extra Muharirs had been engaged for classifying and arranging the whole of the judicial records of the office.

In course of the Mutiny the records and registers in Hazaribagh were either destroyed or torn up and only a few books remained whole as reported by the man incharge. Attempts were made to reconstruct the records and registers and to sort them out as far as possible. An attempt was also made to make out a statement of cash securities etc. in the Collectorship of Hazaribagh on the 9th October, 1857 and it showed that the total money in hand was only Rs. 3,845-10-5½.

46 Cart loads of ammunition had been captured from the rebels of the Ramgarh Light Infantry. 4 Six pounded guns were also captured. Simpson wanted Major English to remain at Hazaribagh with the Europeans under his command so that the detachment of Sikhs could be utilized to subdue the wild tribes in the eastern and south-eastern parts of Hazaribagh.

Quantities of opium and such other articles had been looted by the Mutineers. A box of opium containing 1 maund 20 seers had been

recovered from the Mutineer's camp and their ammunition in one of the despatches.

A statement of salaries of the establishment attached to the district jail of Hazaribagh on the 30th July, 1857, when Sepoy Mutiny broke out shows that Sita Ram, a Daroga was on a pay of Rs. 20/- per month along with the acting Doctor who was also on the same pay. A Blacksmith and a Mehtar were on a pay of Rs. 3/- per month. The Daroga of the jail was getting Rs. 20/- while the European Jailor was on a pay of Rs. 100/- per month. There were 25 Barkendazes on Rs. 4/- per month each.

It appears that the native Doctor had been bodily carried away by the Mutineers along with some medicines.

Correspondence shows that the Sepoys of the Ramgarh Light Infantry who had rebelled were being apprehended from time to time and were being charged with mutiny and desertion. It appears that there was a ruthless campaign on the countryside to apprehend such persons. It is also disclosed that some of the Santhals and Chuhars were also being apprehended. Arjoon Santhal and Rambani Manjhi the two main leaders of the insurgent Chuhars and Santhals were apprehended and forwarded to Hazaribagh with the report on the 21st November, 1857. The same letter informs that Police had apprehended some rebel Sepoys who had been engaged in the battle at Chatra.

A letter to the Commissioner from the Principal Assistant Commissioner dated the 30th November, 1857, mentions that Mr. Liebert a German gentleman employed on the Coffee plantation of M/S. Howorth and Co., at Seetagurra near Hazaribagh had sustained a loss of Rs. 1340/- by the insurgents. The case was recommended to the Relief Society in reply to a letter from the Honorary Secretary to the Calcutta Relief Fund. It was urged that Mr. Liebert will have to re-establish himself. Another case recommended to the Relief Society was that of Mr. C. Wheeler a pensioner of artillery who had settled at Hazaribagh and he was mainly instrumental in establishing Coffee cultivation in Hazaribagh. His house was burnt and completely destroyed by the Mutineers on the 30th July along with his buggy. Mr. Wheeler sustained a loss of rupees about 1400/-.

It appears that M/S. Howorth and Co., of Calcutta were responsible for Coffee plantation at Seetagurra and other places near Hazaribagh.

The battle of Chatra appears to have been the major event in the course of Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 in the Hazaribagh district. Frequent references had been made to this battle of Chatra.

Mr. Simpson reported that he had personally sustained a loss of about 6 to 7 thousand rupees as his house was set fire to completely destroying everything in the house. Two of his horses were carried away.

Some of the Correspondence Volumes refer to the desire of the Government to raise a number of elephants from Hazaribagh district either for hire or sale for military purpose. The elephants were required particularly for the cold weather of 1857 when an unprecedentedly large number of European troops would be moving towards North-East and Western Provinces.

Letter No. 1901 from the Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Inspector of Jails, Lower Provinces dated the 30th September, 1857 authorised a reward of Rs 10/- for the recapture of each of the felons who had been released by the Mutineers from the Jails in the Province of Chotanagpur and "to dismiss the whole of the jail establishment of Chaybasa declaring them incapable of ever again serving the Government."

Letter No. 29 from the Officiating Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh dated the 25th September, 1857 mentions about depredations by gangs of Santhals and others in the South-east portion of Hazaribagh. It was mentioned that the officer commanding the immoveable column should not, however, detach any portion of his force to put down such disturbances. It was mentioned that Capt. Oakes had been sent out with a detachment of Seikhs to put down the Santhals who were still in the vicinity of Jaipur of Manbhoom district and where they had looted and murdered many. The Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh was asked to proceed to Golah with about 100 Seikhs to co-operate with Capt. Oakes in putting down the lawless gatherings. The Principal Assistant Commissioner was asked to do this as soon as he considered his part of the country was secured from the Dorandah Mutineers.

No. 1359.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India in Council, in the Home Department, under date the 31st July, 1857.

"RESOLUTION"

1. The Governor General of India in Council has observed with approbation the zealous exertions of the local Civil Authorities for the apprehension and condign punishment of the Mutineers and Deserters concerned in the the present revolt. It was necessary by the severe and prompt punishment of such of these criminals as found their way into

the districts in our possession, where the minds of the Native Troops could not but be in a very unsettled state though the men for the most part had abstained from open mutiny, to show that the just fate of the Mutineer is death, and that the British Government was powerful to inflict the penalty. It was necessary also by the offer of rewards for the apprehension of all deserters, to check the crime of desertion which was becoming rife in some of these Regiments, and to prevent the possible escape of men who, apparently mere deserters, had been concerned in such terrible atrocities that their apprehension and condign punishment was an imperative duty.

2. But lest measures of extreme severity should be too hastily resorted to, or carried too far, His Lordship in Council thinks it right to issue detailed instructions on this subject, by which all Civil Officers will be guided in the exercise of their powers in the cases of Mutineers, Deserters and Rebels.

3. There is reason to believe that in some, even of those native Regiments whose revolt has been stained by the most sanguinary atrocities, some men may have distinguished themselves from the mass by protecting an officer. In some such cases men of very guilty Regiments possess certificates in their favour from Officers of their regiments; but there may be others equally deserving of clemency who are without any such ready means of clearing themselves from the presumptive evidence of their deep guilt.

4. Where the number of men guilty of what it is impossible to pardon is so great, the Government will gladly seize every opportunity of reducing the work of retribution before it, by giving a free pardon to all who can show that they have a claim to mercy on this ground, provided they have not been guilty of any heinous crime against person or property, or aided or abetted others in the commission of any such crime.

5. It is understood that in Regiments which mutinied and for the most part went over to the Rebels, without murdering their Officers or committing any other sanguinary outrage, there were men who appeared to have had no heart in the revolt, though they failed in their duty as soldiers and who have evinced their peaceable disposition and their want of sympathy with those who are now armed in open rebellion against the Government, by dispersing to their villages when the Regiment broke up, and mixing quietly with the rural population. It is desirable to treat such men with all reasonable leniency.

6. The Governor General in Council therefore deems it necessary to lay down the following rules for the guidance of Civil Authorities, in

exercising the powers vested in them by recent legislation for the punishment of Native officers and Soldiers charged with mutiny or desertion.

(1st.) No Native Officer or Soldier belonging to a Regiment which has not mutinied is to be punished by the Civil Power as a mere deserter, unless he be found or apprehended with arms in his possession. Such men, when taken before or apprehended by the Civil Power, are to be sent back to their Regiments whenever that can be done, there to be dealt with by the Military Authorities. When such men cannot be sent back to their Regiments immediately, they should be detained in prison pending the orders of Government to whom a report is to be made addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Military Department.

(2nd.) Native Officers and Soldiers being mutineers or deserters, taken before or apprehended by the Civil Power not found or apprehended with arms in their possession, not charged with any specific act of rebellion, and belonging to a Regiment which has mutinied but has not been guilty of the murder of its Officers or of any other sanguinary crime, are to be sent to Allahabad, or to such other places as Government may hereafter order, and are there to be made over to the Commandant, to be dealt with by the Military Authorities, should any difficulty arise in sending the offender to Allahabad, either by reason of its distance from the place of arrest or otherwise, the offender should be imprisoned until the orders of Government can be obtained, unless for special reasons it may be necessary to punish the offender forthwith in which case a report will immediately afterwards be made to the Government.

(3rd.) Every mutineer or deserter who may be taken before or apprehended by the Civil Authorities, and who may be found to belong to a Regiment which killed any European Officer, or other European, or committed any other sanguinary outrage, may be tried and punished by the Civil Power. If the prisoner can show that he was not present at the murder or other outrage, or, if present, that he did his utmost to prevent it, full particulars of the case should be reported to Government in the Military Department before the sentence, whatever it be is carried into effect. Otherwise the sentence should be carried into effect forthwith.

(4th.) If it cannot be ascertained to what Regiment a mutineer or deserter taken before or apprehended by the Civil Authorities belonged, he is to be dealt with as provided above by the 2nd Rule.

7. Lists showing the several Regiments and Detachments which have mutinied, will be prepared with all practicable despatch in the

Military Department, stating in each case all known particulars of the Mutiny and accompanied by nominal rolls, with appropriate remarks opposite to the names of those Native Officers and men who are known to have been absent from their Regiments at the time of the Mutiny, and of those who if present, are known to have taken an active part either in promoting or suppressing the Mutiny, or to have simply joined, or abstained from joining it. These Nominal Rolls as soon as prepared will be printed and circulated to all Civil Officers, and to Military Officers in Command.

8. The Governor General in Council is anxious to prevent measures of extreme severity being unnecessarily resorted to, or carried to excess, or applied without due discrimination, in regard to acts of rebellion committed by persons not Mutineers.

9. It is unquestionably necessary, in the first attempt to restore order in a District in which the Civil Authority has been entirely overthrown, to administer the Law with such promptitude and severity as will strike terror into the minds of the evil disposed among the people and will induce them by the fear of death to abstain from plunder, to restore stolen property, and to return to peaceful occupations. But this object once in a great degree attained, the punishment of crimes should be regulated with discrimination.

10. The continued administration of the Law in its utmost severity after the requisite impression has been made upon the rebellious and disorderly, and after order has been partially restored, would have the effect of exasperating the people, and would probably induce them to band together in large numbers for the protection of their lives, and with a view to retaliation—a result much to be deprecated. It would greatly add to the difficulties of settling the country hereafter if a spirit of animosity against their rulers were engendered in the minds of the people and if their feelings were embittered by the remembrance of needless bloodshed. The Civil Officers in every district should endeavour, without condoning any heinous offences or making any promises of pardon for such offences, to encourage all persons to return to their usual occupations, and punishing only such of the principal offenders as can be apprehended, to postpone as far as possible all minute enquiry into political offences until such time as the Government are in a position to deal with them in strength after thorough investigation. It may be necessary however even after a district is partially restored to order to make examples from time to time of such persons, if any, who may be guilty of serious outrages against person or property, or who by stopping the Dawk or injuring the Electric Telegraph or otherwise

may endeavour to promote the designs of those who are waging war against the State.

11. Another point to be noticed in connection with this subject is the general burning of villages, which the Governor General in Council has reason to fear may have been carried too far by some of the Civil Officers employed in restoring order.

12. A severe measure of this sort is doubtless necessary, as an example, in some cases where the mass of the inhabitants of a village have committed a grave outrage and the perpetrators cannot be punished in their persons, but any approach to a wholesale destruction of property by the Officers of Government, without due regard to the guilt or innocence of those who are affected by it, must be strongly reprehended. Apart from the effect which such a practice would have upon the feelings and disposition of the country people, there can be no doubt that it would prevent them from returning to their villages and resuming the cultivation of their fields, a point at this season of vital importance, in as much as if the lands remain much longer unsown, distress, and even famine may be added to the other difficulties with which the Government will have to contend.

Sd/. C. Bradon.

Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 83—8

Message received by Electric Telegraph from Sherghatty, Saturday, 3rd October 9-23 P.M. from Lieutt. Stanton.

To Calcutta.

To Secretary to the Government of India.

Following message received from Major English at Chuttra. I had a severe engagement yesterday with the Ramghur Battalion, defeated them, taken four guns complete and fortyfive cartloads of ammunition. I have had fortyfive men killed, and wounded, and am not strong enough to escort what I have through the Jungles surrounding me. Filled as they are with disbanded sepoys, and plunderers I take upon myself you to send me one hundred men if possible. Telegraph to Calcutta when you have done so. With reference to the above I have only twentyfive Sikhs here. Shall I detain a detachment of Europeans and march on Chuttra to assist in bringing in the ammunition.

Calcutta,
Electric Telegraph Office,
the 4th of October, 1857.

(Sd.) L. E. W. O' Brien,
3rd Assist. in Charge.

Despd. 8-25

No. 89

Message received by Electric Telegraph.
From Chuttra via Burhee, 4th October, 9 a. m.
From Major English.
To Calcutta
To General Mansfield.

I came upon the Ramghur Mutineers at nine o'clock this morning, encamped on the West side of the Town after the enemy, their guns are captured and their whole camp. We have taken four guns and waggons complete, ten elephants and much ammunition. Our loss is severe, thirtysix of Her Majesty's 53rd and six of the Sikhs killed and wounded, all officers are safe, the men and officers behaved nobly.

Calcutta E. T. Office, (Sd.) L. E. W. O' Brien,
4th October, 1857, 9 P. M. 3rd Assist. in charge
Secretary to the Government of India, Army Department.

No. 152

Message received by Electric Telegraph.
From Chuttra via Burhee, 7th October, 8-30 a. m.
From Major English.
To Calcutta,
To General Mansfield.

I have moved my camp to the east of the Town on a fine open plain. Major Simpson buried seventy seven of the enemy yesterday, and, reports that above one hundred are lying wounded in the jungle and that the mutineers have dispersed. Two Subadars were brought in yesterday and hanged this morning. For the sake of the wounded I shall return to Hazaribagh by easy marches. The road is through Jungles in many places and my party very weak to escort the line of the wounded, carts, guns and waggons. One hundred men would be great assistance, the guns will have to be dragged across many swamps and the road is very difficult; send me without delay Hospital bedding and clothing for thirty men, hospital comforts and two casks of Rum. Some treasure has been given over to Major Simpson.

Calcutta, E. T. Office, (Sd.) L. E. W. O' Brien,
7th October, 1857. Pro Head Assistant in charge

From Hazaribagh district Old Correspondence , 1856-57, Vol. VII
To Captain E. F. Dalton, Offg. Commissioner, Chota Nagpur.

Sir,

My demi-official notes of the 30th, 1st and 2nd instant will have informed you of the advance of the force under Major English on Chuttra and the defeat of the mutineers, Ramgurrh Battalion with detail of artillery and capture of four six-pounder guns on the 2nd of this month.

2. The mutineers had taken up a strong position on the west of Chuttra with the whole of the city on their east, the narrow streets of which could not be passed through without endangering our small force. The road leading to the town is over a bridge and to the north of the bridge is one succession of deep ricefields which it would have been difficult to pass with rapidity. After Major Smyth had drawn up a rough plan of the town and approach, it was determined by Major English to make the attack rounding the south of the city and coming opposite the position of the mutineers at the old jail, etc.

3. On the advanced guard passing west of the jail, the main body of the mutineers were discovered on the heights and skirmishers were immediately sent off by Major English to the north across a narrow belt of rice ground, and soon got into action with the rebels. The first Enfield rifle ball discharged at a distance of 900 yards, it was supposed, took effect and was immediately followed by round shot from the enemy fired in the direction of our approach. But as the main party of the Europeans and Sikhs had nearly crossed the rice ground marked A when the guns opened, providentially the fire did not do much harm. One ball, however, shot dead the horse, an assistant apothecary attached to the Europeans was riding, when the owner a mere lad proceeded on foot manfully with the advancing column.

4. The Europeans on crossing the rice ground, went by the east of the village of Kullotea, and Lieut. Earle commanding the Sikhs with myself and a party of men proceeded through the hamlet which brought us in proximity to the position of the mutineers and on emerging from the lane of the village we found the Europeans hotly engaged with the rebels at the tops of trees marked B and on looking towards the old jail I observed a considerable number of the mutineers rushing up in skirmishing order and advancing on the rear of our attacking party. The attention of the Sikhs was immediately directed to this threatened danger, and taking up a position in the grove we fired steadily upon the enemy, killing and wounding some amongst the former a

Jamadar with a blue coat whose body I found the following morning with a sepoy at the spot. I saw them when aimed at.

5. After the main party of the Sikhs had beaten off this attack from the south-east, they joined the attack on the two remaining guns which were pouring grape shot, etc., upon us as we passed through the grove. It was there many of the Europeans and some of the Sikhs fell and it was not until the determined intrepidity of Lieut. Daunt, who by a rush on the left flank of the remaining gun captured it, that the mutineers discontinued to serve it, as after many of their party must have been killed and wounded by Enfield rifles, yet the shot of this gun was still directed at our advancing party within the grove and every round was tearing away the branches or ploughing up the ground in our vicinity, and had there not been the trees to afford partial cover to the men, the loss on our side must have been much greater.

Our killed and wounded aggregate 56 men,—46 Europeans and 10 Sikhs ; of these the wounds of some of the Europeans are very severe, four of them having undergone amputation.

6. The conduct of the troops under Major English in the battle on the 2nd instant was beyond all praise, the cool intrepidity of the detachment Her Majesty's 53rd with every officer attached to it well seconded in the attack by the Sikhs under Lieut. Earle, and the excellent arrangements of Major English and his staff rendered success certain, and although it has been achieved at considerable loss, yet the object gained has been great and I trust will ensure the speedy tranquillity of the whole of the province of Bihar, if not add considerably to the security of the country from the Son to Calcutta.

We changed our camp this morning from the west of the town to this place ; which is two miles off, in consequence of the offensive smell in the vicinity of camp where the engagement took place. There were 77 bodies of the mutineers buried in one pit on the 3rd instant and the number of wounded must have been very large. Several of the wounded and absconded, both native officers and men, have been apprehended and brought in by the rural police and villagers since the battle, and numbers of the mutineers have abandoned and thrown away their arms which have been picked up and brought in to me.

7. Jai Mangal Pandey and Nadir Ali, Subadars of the Battalion both present in the engagement of the 2nd (the latter wounded) were taken in the jungle and brought to me on the 3rd. These two principal mutineers were tried under the provisions of Act XVII of 1857 and sentence of death, passed upon them by my court in my capacity of Commissioner under the above law, was duly carried into effect this morning

on the very ground where they had made such an obstinate resistance to the British troops two days previously. The confessions of these men recorded in detail are valuable and copies will be forwarded for the use of your office. From these it would appear that several of the Jagirdars, Lalls, or relations of the Raja of Chota Nagpur were cognizant, if not implicated in the proceedings of the mutinous sepoys. One of them, the Lal of Sulgee, Jagatpal Singh in particular, appears to be a son-in-law of Kooar Singh and to have held correspondence with that individual who would seem to me to have deputed eight of the sepoys of the two companies of 8th Regiment Native Infantry (who mutinied at Hazaribagh) to attend upon the Lal and to keep up the excitement and spirit of rebellion already engendered in the Ramgarh Light Infantry by the machinations of the Jemadar Madho Singh.

8. One of these men of the 8th I am led to believe was shot in the engagement of the 2nd. The mutineers had entertained a number of recruits, men from Bhojpur, Mugga or Bihar, and other parts, as also some discharged sepoys, and were actually teaching these with blank cartridge the morning we approached Chuttra. Their ignorance or want of belief in our approach was most fatal to them as a party was actually plundering in the town at the time we were rounding the southern extremity of the city and within two gun shots of us. These men could have scarcely rejoined the main body before we attacked them and only knew of our approach from the top of a house, into the upper storey of which they had proceeded for the purpose of looting the owner's property.

9. The Jemadar Madho Singh, I fear, has escaped. Some say he went with a detachment into the town either to look out for our advance, or with some other object—may be plunder. Bhola Singh Barail of Chorea seems to have been a zealous coadjutor of the mutineers in plundering the mahajans of the town and was killed by the people of the place with several sepoys on our attack.

10. The Thakur Bishwanath Singh with Ganpat Roy, former dewan of the Nagpur Raja, seem to have fled in the commencement of the fight; the Thakur's palanquin was brought in to me the following day from the jungle; two servants of the Barkagarh Thakurs have also been apprehended and are forwarded to the Senior Asstt. Commissioner Lohardaga, for investigation into their case.

11. The amount of ammunition recovered has been very large, so much so as to excite suspicions that ammunition from other quarters may have been under charge of the mutineers. I would strongly

recommend enquiry to be made as to what ammunition was actually in store at Doranda when the mutiny broke out.

12. I have placed my seal on five boxes containing or supposed to contain treasure, two of those with Chubb locks for want of keys we have been unable to open. In the other boxes there was found a good deal of small coins, pie, pico, etc., etc., some rupees; also a chest of opium, all of which I imagine must have belonged to the Lohardaga treasury.

I observed an office seal in one of the boxes, and on reaching Hazaribagh I will have the whole carefully examined and duly brought to the credit of Government.

13. I have sent on a party in advance to prepare the road to Hazaribagh for the guns, etc., etc., we have captured, and Major English proposes to reach that station by easy marches as soon as possible to get the wounded under shelter.

14. I would have submitted this report earlier but as you may suppose under the circumstances detailed, have had little time to myself. Since the engagement the providing several requisites for about 50 wounded is no trifling task, and the means of moving them from a place which has been plundered and rifled by a mutinous battalion is no easy matter. However, I trust our efforts will result in the admission of Government that we have all endeavoured to do our duty.

15. I annex a small sketch map of Chuttra and the position of the mutineers which will elucidate and explain the first portion of this communication.

Princl. Asst. Commr's Office,
Hazaribagh Division,
Camp Kalapahari near Chitra,
The 4th October, 1857

} I have the honour to be, etc.
(Sd.) J. Simpson
} Princl. Asst. Commr. of Hazaribagh

No. 3424 B

From

The Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor General.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
Dated Allahabad the 30th September, 1858

Sir,

I am directed to enclose for the information of the Hon'ble the

Lieutenant Governor copy of a letter dated the 18th instant No. 331
Foreign Department : from the Magistrate and Special Commissioner of
Banda, reporting upon the trial of Narain Rao and
Madho Rao, and the Jemadar Mukood Rao for rebellion and treason against the British Government.
Narain Rao
Madho Rao and
Jemadar Mukood
Rao on trial.

2. The Governor General taking into consideration the extenuating circumstances in favour of Narain Rao, has remitted so much of the sentence passed upon him, as directs transportation beyond seas for life, and has resolved that he shall reside at Hazaribagh under the surveillance of the Magistrate or other Local authority during the pleasure of Government, receiving from the Government during the period of his detention an allowance of Rupees Seven hundred 700/- per mensem.

3. Narain Rao will be accompanied by a few domestic servants.

4. I am desired to request that the Hon'ble the Lieutenant Governor will be pleased to cause suitable accommodation for Narain Rao to be at once secured, or provided at Hazaribagh and to instruct the Magistrate or other Local authority in whose charge Narain Rao will be placed, that without being put in custody or under restraint, he is on arrival to be kept under such surveillance as shall effectually prevent his leaving Hazaribagh or communicating either in person or by letter with anyone, without the knowledge and consent of the Magistrate.

5. Narain Rao will shortly arrive at Allahabad, and the Government of the North Western Provinces will be requested to inform you whenever he may despatched from this en-route to Hazaribagh.

Allahabad
The 30th September,
1858:

I have etc.
Sd/- G. F. Edmonstone,
Secy. to the Govt. of India
with the Governor General
(True Copy)
Sd/- Thomas Jones
Register, Bengal Secretariat,
True Copies
Sd/- Illegible.
Commissioner Chotanagpur.

No. 149.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Officiating Principal Assistant Commissioner at Hazareebaugh.

Camp Ramgurh
The 14th November,
1858.

By his Obedient Servant,
Sd/- Illegible.
Commissioner of Chota Nagpur

No. 3938.

From

A. R. Young, Esquire,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

The Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

Dated— Fort William, the 6th October, 1858.

Sir,

With reference to the accompanying copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Government of India with the Governor General in the Foreign Department, I am directed to request that you will be good enough to make the requisite arrangements for the reception of Narain Rao at Hazaribagh and report what is proposed to be done for the information of the Lieutenant Governor.

Judicial
No. 3424 B dated
30th Ultimo
Chotanagpur
1858.
Arrangement for
Narain Rao;
reception at
Hazaribagh.

I have etc.

Sd/- A. R. Young.

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal

No. 115.

From

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur

To

Lieut. Colonel. T. Simpson
Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated Camp Chyebassa, the 13th October, 1858.

Sir,

I have the honour to annex for your information copy of a letter to my address from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal with enclosure from which you will observe that Narain Rao is to reside at Hazaribagh under surveillance on an allowance of Rs. 700/- a month.

Hazaribagh.
Judicial. 1858.
Narain Rao,
Surveillance on
an allowance
of Rs. 700/-
No. 3938 of
the 6th instant.

You will have the goodness to allot for the accommodation of Narain Rao one of the Government

Bungalows at your station or such other dwelling place as you consider best adapted.

Have the building repaired if it requires, repaired and placed in readiness as speedily as possible and do me the favour to report direct to Government and to me what you propose to be done.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Sd/- Illegible

Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

(Copy)

No. 3976.

From

G. F. Edmonstone Esquire
Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor General.

To

A. R. Young Esquire
Secretary to the Government of Bengal

Sir,

In continuation of my letter dated 17th instant No. 3752 ; I have the honour to forward the accompanying copy of a letter
Foreign Dept. from the Officiating Commissioner of Allahabad, reporting that he has despatched Narain Rao and followers to Patna on board the Steamer 'Megna'—

I have & ca.

S/d.—G. F. Edmonstone

Allahabad

The 23rd October, 58.

नमस्ते
Secretary to the Government of
India with the Governor General

Copy

No. 2344.

From

E. C. Bayley Esquire
Officiating Commissioner,
Allahabad Division.

To

G. F. Edmonstone Esquire
Secretary to the Government of India
with the Governor General
Dated Allahabad, the 19th October, 1858.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that according to the instructions contained in your letter No. 3751, dated 17th instant, I yesterday despatched Narain Rao to Patna, on board
Judicial.

the 'Megna' Steamer which sailed about 5 P.M. A guard of 12 men and 2 non Commissioned Officer, provided by Captain Dennely, were placed on board, with direction to maintain a strict watch, under the orders of the Commander Captain Hampton.

2. I furnished Captain Hampton with written Demi Official Orders to treat Narain Rao with all courtesy and indulgence consistent with a strict surveillance.—

3. As the treasury was closed I could only give Narain Rao 200 Rupees in cash, which however will amply suffice for his expenses by the way. I have applied for a Draft of 1200 Rupees, which I will transmit to the Commissioner of Patna in payment of the balance of the two months allowance.

4. The men who accompanied him are noted below, they are 10 in number, and I permitted also the son of one of them, a child of 8 or 10 years old, to accompany the party :—

- | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------|
| 1. Syajee | } | Khidmutgars. |
| 2. Chunima | | |
| 3. Dogra | | |
| 4. Rogoobur | } | Water Carriers |
| 5. Rama | | |
| 6. Madateen | | |
| 7. Dwarka | } | Cooks |
| 8. Damodur | | |
| 9. Bapoo | } | Masalchee |
| 10. Heera | | |
| | | Hurkara |

also Matadeen's son, a child

Commissioner's office
Allahabad Division
The 19th October, 1858.

I have & ca.
Sd/- E. C. Bayley
Officiating Commissioner.

True Copy
Sd/- Chas. Macleod
Registrar, Foreign Department.

No. 4229.

Copy forwarded for the information of the Commissioner of Chotanagpore in continuation of the endorsement from this office, No. 4153 dated the 26th instant—

Fort William
The 29th October, 1858

By order of the
Lieutenant Governor of Bengal
Signed/- A. R. Young
Secretary to the Government of Bengal

No. 125.

From

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur

To

Lieutenant Coll. I. Simpson,
Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

Dated Camp Chyebassa, the 8th November, 1858.

Sir,

In forwarding to you copies of the annexed correspondence regarding the state prisoner Narain Rao, I have the honour to state that in the absence of further instruction from

Judicial.
1. From the Secretary to the Govt. of India Foreign Department to the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal No. 3976 of 23rd October, 58.

2. From the Commissioner of the Allahabad Division to the Secretary to the Govt. of India Foreign Dept No. 2344 Dt. 19th October, 1858.

3. From the Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal to the Commissioner of Chotanagpore No. 4229 dated 29th Dec

Government on the subject the watch maintained over the prisoner should not be less strict than that ordered by the Offg. Commissioner of Allahabad.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Sd/- Illegible,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur

Old correspondence on Hazaribagh district from the Record Room Ranchi. (Volume V 1851-1853).

From letter no. 29 of 1851, it appears that there used to be regular Sowars employed on the Trunk Road and these Sowars were fully utilized for checking dacoity in the area.

It appears that Bhojpuris who were natives of the Shahabad district frequently entered into Hazaribagh district and committed dacoity. There are frequent references in the old correspondence that there was suspicion about the Bhojpuri robbers committing dacoity.

In letter no. 515 of 1853 dated the 14th September, 1853 from the Principal A. A. Governor General, S.W. Frontier Hazaribagh Division, Hazaribagh to the officiating Agent Governor General, Chotanagpore, attempts to improve the Grand Trunk Road have been mentioned. There were several station houses and wells made on the Grand Trunk Road. It was mentioned that the result of establishing the New Road Police had given more security to life and property and had diminished dacoities and gang robberies. The location of a Deputy Magistrate at

Burhee for the protection of the travellers was of great advantage. Burhee Thana was well strengthened by the posting of more Barkandazes. There were "Murhellas" set up at certain distances and probably they meant smaller police Chaukis. There were Digwars who were paid by the Maharaja of Ramgarh and the other Rajahs. The Digwars were well acquainted with the hills and jungles and if they wanted could be of very great help.

Letter no. 650 of 1854, dated the 6th October, 1854 informs the Commissioner of Chotanagpur (Mr. Allen) of a Bakrid trouble at Kani Bazar in Hazaribagh. It appears that a Musalman had killed a bullock in his house in the Bazar and the Hindus in the locality objected. An Assistant to the Prosecutor and two sepoys of the detachment of Ramgarh Battalion and others were implicated. The sepoys and other parties had been punished. This was the first incidence of a report of a communal tension in the district, as could be found from the old correspondence. Malicious killing of cattle with the object of appropriating skins appears to have made its appearance in Hazaribagh division in 1846 as mentioned in letter no. 44 of 1855 dated the 27th February, 1855. Heavy punishments used to be inflicted. The crime was peculiar to the district. The Chamars were, generally, suspected.

Police in the Elaka of Ramgarh in 1854-55. Volume VI, 1854-1855.

A letter dated 7-1-54 from the Principal A.A. Governor General, S. W. F., Hazaribagh to the officiating Agent, G. G., S. W. F., gives a short account of the police in Ramgarh. It mentions that the Chief Zamindar, the Maharaja of Ramgarh was still an Elakadar of police and had 7 police thanas—Echaque, Ramgarh, Gomia, Hazaribagh, Huntergunj and two more. He also controlled the Ghatwals and Digwars. The Maharaja of Ramgarh had applied for permission to take off the Digwars from the new road and place them on other jungle parts of the zamindari. Besides the Ramgarh estate the other great division of the district Khuruckdiah comprising of the Khalra and Noongarh villages, a number of Ghatwali estates and numerous petty tenures. In this Purganah two Government Thanas were established at Khuruckdiah and one at Goa with several out post police Chaukis. But there were no zamindars or Rajas entrusted with the police of this portion of the district. The zamindar of Ramgarh was in absolute charge of the Thanas under him but the pay of the establishment was very small. The Kunda zamindari was within the jurisdiction of a Government Thana at Chuttra.

Mr. Ricketts, Senior Member of the Board of Revenue toured in the district and left a note calling attention to the great necessity of

improving the zamindari Thanas. He wanted that the pay should be increased and there should be more supervision from the Government Agency. The best way of improving the rural police, he held, was by increasing their salaries and taking due precaution that it was regularly paid to them and that the Chaukidars be not dispossessed from the lands they held for the services unless they were found thoroughly useless.

No. 149. 1855 :

Copy forwarded for the information of the Offg. Principal Assistant Commissioner at Hazaribagh.

Camp Ramgarh
The 14th November, 1855.

} By his obedient Servant
Sd/- Illigible.
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Old Correspondence, Hazaribagh Record Room.

Police Organisation

From a report by W. C. Spencer to Simpson dated the 5th March, 1855 it appears that Police Organisation was in the hands of the zamindars for most of the Thanas. Some Thanas were however in the hands of the Government. The Darogas in the zamindari Police Thanas were very poorly paid and the very small number of heinous crimes rather suggested that cases were not properly reported. Chatra was a Government Thana and the Police establishment consisted of a Daroga, one Muharir and 12 Barkendazes. Huntergun was a zamindari Thana and the Daroga got the pay of Rs. 10/-, the Muharir Rs. 5/- and 5 Barkendazes Rs. 2/13/- each. The Raja of Kunda ran the Thana at Unnunipore. The pay of Daroga was Rs. 15/- and the 5 Barkendazes got Rs. 3/- each per month. The Police establishment was most inefficient and perfectly incapable of properly performing the Police duties of the jurisdiction.

Eechauk Thana was kept up by the Eechauk Raja. There was no Daroga and the Raja was the nominal Daroga of the Thana and under him was a Muharir on Rs. 5/- per month. The policing was very badly done and there was a good number of dacoity cases reported. Itkauri Thana was also run by the zamindar. Ramgarh was also a zamindari Thana in the hands of the Raja. But at Ramgarh there were two Barkandazes. From one of the Government Thanas in the Burhee jurisdiction one deputed to assist the zamindari police. Robberies were not un-common. At Gomia and Rajgarha Thana there were frequent dacoity and high-way robbery. The neighbourhood at Peturbar and Gola had a bad name and the robberies were frequent. It was proposed that there should be a Chauki started at Peturbar and Gola with a number of Barkandazes. It was further held that the

zamindari Thanas were not functioning properly and it was impossible for a Daroga to exercise proper supervision over the Chaukidars, Goraits and other village Police. It was proposed that the pay of the Darogas should be increased.

Police in 1856

Tour was undertaken in Hazaribagh District by Mr. W. C. Spencer who was in Hazaribagh and a report was submitted to Major Simpson, Assistant Commissioner.

From the report it appears that at Chatra in the course of three years past only two cases of dacoity had occurred. The Police establishment consisted of a Daroga, one Muharir and 12 Barkandazes. Chatra was a well in hand but the zamindari thana at Huntergunj was of poor efficiency. The establishment consisted of a Daroga on a salary of Rs. 10/-; out of which he used to supply stationeries and a Muharir on Rs. 5/- and 5 Barkandazes on Rs. 2-13-0 each per month.

The Raja of Kunda maintained a thana at Unantpore. The condition of this thana was not so bad and the Raja of Kunda had a Police establishment at Ichak. The Daroga received Rs. 15/- a month, the Moharir Rs. 6/- and there were 5 Barkandazes on Rs. 3/- a month.

The police establishment maintained by the Raja of Ichak was most inefficient and was incapable of performing the Police duty. The Daroga in particular was of very oppressive character.

Itkhori :—There was another zamindari thana with very poor efficiency. At Ramgarh the establishment of the thana was paid by the Raja and the level of the efficiency was low. The roads were full of robbers. Robberies and dacoities were of frequent occurrences. The neighbourhood of Pitterbar and Gola was infested with robbers. It was difficult for the Daroga to have proper supervision over the Gorayats who were under the zamindars. It was suggested that the pay of Daroga should be enhanced to atleast Rs. 20/- a month.

There was a general callousness amongst the police who were very ease-loving. They woke up only when some wealthy Elakadar was implicated in any crime when they would exert themselves in order to obtain suitable compensation. At times they reported that the party ordered to be arrested have either gone on pilgrimage either to Benaras or Puri. In order to pacify the Magistrate occasionally after receiving the 5th or 6th takeed the police will send him a few unfortunate men who have generally nothing to do with the case.

He thought that the Zamindari police could be very much improved if vacancies in the Government Thanas were filled up by the most deserving among the Zamindari Police.

There is some correspondence regarding strengthening the new Road Police establishment and Government Thanas. The new Road refers to the Grand Trunk Road. Burhee Thana which was under a Deputy Magistrate was strengthened by the posting of more Barkandazes.

The Road Police had to give protection to the bullock trains. There were three separate bullock cart trains, namely, the Government, the Northwards and the Hindustan. These trains travelled at all hours night and day. Frequency of robberies in that division was particularly sought to be put down and the police force from Chauparan to Bulwa Chauki was strengthened. The Government bullock trains were 15 in number. In 1856 there was a serious attempt by the way of high-way robbery on the Government bullock train. Two of the trains were lagging behind and a few packages were removed by the robbers from these two trains. A Mohammadan passenger saw and made a hulla at which all the other units stopped and both the passengers and the driver got down. The robbers took to the jungles leaving the property which they had removed.

Grand Trunk Road was very important in the years 1856-57. The proper maintenance of this road made possible quick conveyance of the troops. There used to be a Deputy Magistrate posted at Burhee. His hands were full looking for the robberies and dacoities. The Bullock train used to pass through the Grand Trunk Road and robberies on the Government Bullock trains were not un-common. In 1856, Mr. Tweedi was posted as Deputy Magistrate at Burhee and inspected all the Thanas and Road Police were implicated in the robberies on the Grand Trunk Road. The Road Police were not very reliable. Mr. Tweedi was asked by Simpson that wherever on road a robbery takes place he was to apprehend punishment on both the Thana and the Road Policemen, either by removing them to any station fining them or discharging them altogether. In 1856, a few transfers of Darogas were made to tighten up the administration. The demand of carts was very frequent and it was difficult to meet with the requisitions for the carts, always, although bullocks were available.

Hazaribagh Old correspondence Volume No. 87 (1856-57)

Letter No. 19 from the Judicial Secretary to Government of Bengal to the Commissioner, Chotanagpur dated Fort William the 8th January, 1857 mentions that the Lt. Governor approved of the proposal that when a zamindar was declared insolvent and his estate was brought under protection the zamindar should atonce be deprived of his Police functions. The Police function should be administered, henceforth, by the District Officer till the estate was released.

Letter No. 111 dated the 3rd July 1857 from the Deputy Magistrate, Burhee to the Commissioner Chotanagpur mentions that the ordinary Police were incapable to protect the road from armed dacoits. The Murhallas were scattered and an increase in the Police was considered to be costly. It was suggested that the only way to protect the roads was to raise a body of Sowars and locate them at the different places in between the two Dak Banglows and give them the duty of the patrolling night and day half of the distance from the Dak Banglow to another. It was suggested that each unit should consist of 28 Sowars on a pay of Rs. 20/- each under two native officers at Rs.30/- each. They should be armed with match and sword.

Simpson reported on the 14th August, 1858, that the post Mutiny period was the proper time for improving the Zamindari Police. He wanted more contact of the Zamindari Police with the Government Thana Police and that more pay should be offered and more Government Thanas should be opened.

Memorandum No. 238

Copy of the following extracts forwarded for the information of the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh with reference to his Police Report for 1858 :—

| | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| Commissioner's Office | } | By his most obedient servant |
| Chotanagpur | | (Sd.) Illegible |
| The 15th August, 1859 | | Commissioner of Chotanagpur. |

Extracts from letter No. 4737 dated 23 July 1859 from the Officiating Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner of Chotanagpur—Paras 1,16,17 and 18.

Paragraph 1. Your annual Report on the operations of the Police of the Chotanagpur Division during the year 1858, having been laid before the Lieutenant Governor, I am in reply directed to communicate to you the following orders and observations upon the Returns of each District.

Hazaribagh District :—16. The diminution of crime indicated by the figures in the margin is satisfactory as is also the general

| | | |
|-------|---------|---|
| Cases | Persons | Proportion of convictions to acquittals. |
| 818 | 5459 | None |
| 925 | 22296 | of the cases reported appear to the Lieutenant Governor to call for special notice, but His Honour would express his dissatisfaction at the ill success which attended the operations of the Police in recovering stolen property. In cases of theft the recoveries were only 17 per cent this year compared with 43 of the year preceding. |

17. The proportion of (64) convictions to (45) acquittals out of 115 offenders arrested by the Police upon their own authority is not favourable, while the total number of offenders arrested compared with those concerned in crimes is lamentably small and shows that the Police have been greatly deficient in following up offences when they first occurred. Some explanation has been given on this point but it is not sufficient in the Lt. Governor's opinion to exempt the Police generally from the blame of being very backward in acting any zeal.

18. The Lt. Governor notices with satisfaction the favourable mention made by you of Lt. Col. Simpson the Principal Assistant Commissioner incharge of this District and of his Sub-Assistant Mr. George and also Deputy Magistrate Mr. Wilson and the Deputy Collector Babu Kalidass Paulit.

Old Correspondence Volume, Hazaribagh.

Year—1860.

(Copy)

CIRCULAR

No. 4.

To

The Criminal Authorities

In The Regulation and Non-Regulation Provinces.

Sir.

The Court adopt the following Circular Order issued by the Western Court.

“The Court, having recently had before them several cases, where no post mortem examination could be made by the Civil Surgeon, on the arrival of a corpse at the Sudder Station, in consequence of decomposition, are led to believe that delay too frequently occurs, not only on the part of the Police, in sending in the dead bodies, but also, though in a less degree, after the arrival of the body in the station, where it remains in the charge of the Nazir, until the English letter, which is to accompany it, from the Magistrate to the Civil Surgeon, is being drawn out in the form prescribed by the Court's No. 859, dated June 1st, 1857.

“It is perfectly possible in most cases, even occurring at the hottest time of the year, to cause bodies to be sent in by the Police so speedily that they shall arrive in a condition to be examined, and the Court accordingly enjoin on the Magistrates, subordinate to them, to insist in the first place on the despatch of the body by the Police, without

Nizamut Adawlut
Present :
H. T. Raikes
G. Loch, and,
H. V. Bayley,
Judges
Esqs.

more delay than is absolutely necessary, the hour and date of despatch being always noted in the Chelaun and Urzee of the same date.

"Next, in order to prevent any delay in procuring Coolies along the road, which arises, as the Court fear, from the men, who convey the corpse, being too often engaged without due remuneration, the Magistrate should strictly order his Police to advance the necessary remuneration, and to pay each coolie the usual hire obtaining for a day's work for each stage of 10 miles.

"Thirdly, the hour at which the body reached and was forwarded from each intermediate Thanna and Chowkee should always be noted on the Chelaun.

"On the arrival of the body at the place of residence of the Magistrate, wherever there may be a Civil Surgeon posted to the station, it should be taken direct and without any delay by the Burkundauz in charge of it for examination by the officer, without incurring the delay

*No. 152, January 27th, 1844, which now not unfrequently, takes place in waiting for the preparation of the formal letter, an Urzee being sent No. 546, April 12th 1856, in along with the corpse addressed to the Civil Surgeon. No. 859, June, 1st 1857, A duplicate of this Urzee should be brought in by the

Burkundauz, and delivered to the Nazir, according to which the usual letter of form, containing the particulars required by the Court's Circulars of the Nos. and dates in the margin* is to be drawn up and transmitted without delay to the Civil Surgeon."

I have, etc.,

Fort William :
The 15th May, 1860

(Sd.) H. B. Lawford,
Registrar.
(True copy)

(Sd.) Illegible.
Assistant Registrar.

No. 4455

From

A. Money, Esq., C. B..

Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

Fort William, the 24th August, 1860.

Police and Crime

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that I have laid before the Lieutenant-Governor your Police Report for 1859, and I am directed to convey to you the following remarks upon the general administration of your Division.

2. *Singhoom* :—Under the first class of offence against the person

| | Cases | Persons | Average of previous five years | |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| | | | Cases | Persons |
| Murder | 59 | 218 | 7½ | 18½ |

there is a remarkable increase in the number of murders. The average of the previous five years was seven cases, in which eighteen persons were implicated. The Returns of 1859 exhibit fifty-nine

cases of murder, in which 218 persons were implicated. It appears, however, that fifty of these cases occurred during the disturbances of 1857 and 1858, the people availing themselves of the temporary withdrawal of our authority to indulge their superstitious desire of exterminating witchcraft. The terrible destruction of human life, as Lieutenant Birch remarks, which was caused by this superstition, is dreadful to contemplate ; but it is to be hoped that the serious examples which have been made will prove efficacious in putting a stop to so serious an evil. The Lieutenant-Governor quite approves of the principle which has been adopted in the late decisions, of awarding compensation from the property of the murderers to the surviving members of the families of the murdered persons, as by this means an incentive is given to the relations of those who have been murdered to come forward and reveal crimes which might otherwise have remained concealed. Your efforts to allay the feelings of uneasiness created by the conviction of certain of the Mankees and Mundahs of the Southern Peers, for neglect to report these crimes and for privity in their commission, meet with the Lieutenant-Governor's approbation. It is very satisfactory to observe that, out of 218 persons who were implicated in these crimes, the large number of 212 have been brought to trial. It would be premature to pronounce any opinion upon the result of these trials at present, as no decision has been arrived at in the case of 121 persons at the close of the year.

3. Statement No. 2, of violent offences against property, is so far

| | Cases | Persons | Average of previous five years | |
|---|-------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| | | | Cases | Persons |
| Offences against property committed with violence | 3 | 21 | 6½ | 82 |

satisfactory, that it exhibits a considerable diminution of crimes of this class. Of offences against property without violence the result is most creditable to the Magistrate and the Police. Out of sixty-six persons implicated in the crime of burglary, fifty-two

were arrested and thirty prosecuted to conviction ; and in fifty-three cases of theft, in which 103 persons were implicated, the large proportion of ninety-six were arrested, out of which number fifty-six were convicted against twenty-six acquitted.

4. With regard to miscellaneous offences the acquittals under the heading of misdemeanors are out of all proportion to the convictions: 203 persons were acquitted and only fifty-six convicted. These results naturally lead to the inference that false cases are instituted in the Courts with impunity, and that malicious accusations and perjury are not visited with the punishment they deserve. It is satisfactory to contrast with these results the arrest which were made by the Police on their own authority. Out of 199 persons arrested 130 were convicted and only fifty-one acquitted.

5. Your description of the present tranquil and prosperous condition of Singbhoom, as contrasted with the insecurity and excitement of the previous season, is a subject of great congratulation. It speaks very much in favour of Lieutenant Birch's administration, to whom you are requested to convey the Lieutenant Governor's thanks for the zeal and energy he has displayed. The Lieutenant-Governor is also much pleased with your favourable notice of Dr. Hayes.

6. Your remarks upon the conduct of the Moharajah of Mohurbhunge will be communicated to the Superintendent of the Tributary Mehals, who will be requested to submit a report upon the apparent inattention of the Moharajah to the processes sent to be executed through him. The Lieutenant-Governor observes with much satisfaction what Lieutenant Birch remarks of the praiseworthy manner in which the Rajahs of Keonjhar and Seraikollah and the Thakoor of Khursewan have discharged their duties as Police Officers. The Lieutenant-Governor will be glad to receive the separate reports promised in paragraphs 5 and 18 of your General remarks.

Loharduggah—Under the heading of offences against the person there is a large increase in the number of cases of false imprisonment. The

| | Cases | Persons | Average of previous Five years. | |
|----------------------|-------|---------|---------------------------------|---------|
| | | | Cases | Persons |
| False imprisonments. | 18 | 37 | 7.8 | 20.8 |

cases appear to have originated "from some serious misunderstanding which exists between the landholders and their tenants in some portions of the District".

The Lieutenant-Governor hopes that the steps you have adopted for determining the respective rights of the contending parties will have the effect of putting a stop to those disgraceful cases of kidnapping.

8. With regard to the charge of dacoity, mentioned in your 18th paragraph, which was brought at the instigation of the Thakoor of Govindpore against certain Christian Ryots, I am instructed to observe that the results appear to be far from satisfactory. A most serious charge was proved upon investigation to be false, the conduct of the Police is stated to have been open "to grave animadversions", yet the Prosecutor who preferred the charge, and the Police, whose misconduct is seriously commented upon, were not punished. The withdrawal of Police powers from the Govindpore Thakoor hardly appears a sufficient reason for taking no notice of this misconduct.

9. With regard to your 19th paragraph the data given are not sufficient to admit of the Lieutenant-Governor forming any opinion.

10. In your 25th paragraph it is stated that Anand Singh had a "quarrel with his Ryots, most of whom were Christians, and that he went with a large body of men to coerce the Christians". An affray ensued, one man was killed, and certain persons were arrested and punished. It is not clear from your Report to which side the Prisoners belonged. It would seem, from the account given, that the Christians were merely acting in self-defence. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to have a fuller report upon this case, and the cause of the quarrel should be stated. A fuller report is also required upon the very serious case mentioned in your 27th paragraph. Your serious attention is directed to these disputes, and to the large increase in the number of plunder cases which have occurred during the year. These affrays and numerous plunder cases are by no means creditable to the Executive Administration of the District. The Lieutenant-Governor, however, trusts that, at your next visit to this part of your District, you will personally enquire into the causes of dispute, and adopt measures for their removal.

11. The Lieutenant-Governor notices with pleasure that you have recorded your approval of the manner in which Captain Davies has discharged his duties during the past year, but you have omitted to record your opinion of Captain Davies' subordinates. Captain Davies' remarks, however, have not been overlooked.

12. *Hazareebaugh* :—The figure in the margin shew the results of the trials for murder and homicide, and nothing could be more

| | Arrested | Convicted. | Acquitted |
|----------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Murder | 10 | 0 | 10 |
| Homicide | 11 | 1 | 10 |

unsatisfactory. Your attention is also directed to the number of resistance of process cases. With an efficient Police and an active Magistrate these cases should be of rare occurrence; and when such

cases frequently occur they naturally lead to the inference that the Police are inefficient, if not corrupt.

| | Cases. | Persons. | Average of previous Five Years. | |
|-----------------------|--------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| | | | Cases. | Persons. |
| Resistance of process | 25 | 49 | 14 | 25 |

13. With regard to offences against property committed with violence, I am desired to observe that, although the large decrease in the number of offences of this kind during the past year is satisfactory, the results as to the cases themselves are most unsatisfactory. In the

first place the number of arrests, when compared with the number of Persons implicated . 4,306 persons implicated in the crimes, is Persons arrested . . . 202 lamentably small and in the second place, of the few who were arrested scarcely any were convicted ; indeed only twelve were convicted, while 177 were released.

14. The Lieutenant-Governor would be glad to hear what has been the result of your enquiries in the case of dacoity alluded to in your 8th paragraph. With regard to the remarks in your 11th paragraph, that the Principal Assistant has omitted to report in detail several cases of highway robbery, I am instructed to request that you will direct Lieutenant-Colonel Simpson to keep you fully informed of all the heinous offences which occur within his District. The Lieutenant-Governor desires to be informed of the measures you have adopted for improving the Police of the Burhee Sub-Division.

15. The proportion of convictions and acquittals, as shewn in the

| | Convicted | Acquitted | Pending |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Arrested by Police ..105 | 39 | 63 | 3 |
| Summoned by Magistrate ..291 | 104 | 183 | 4 |

margin, is unfavourable both to the Police and the Magistrate authorities. With these results before him the Lieutenant-Governor is unable to compliment either Lieutenant-Colonel Simpson or the Officers

who were in charge of the Burhee Sub-Division on the administration of the Hazareebaugh District during the past year,

16. *Maunbhoom*.—The Returns from this District call for few remarks. They are upon the whole satisfactory. The information

stated to have been called for in your 11th paragraph should, when obtained, be submitted to Government, in order that the facts of the case may be brought to the notice of the Emigration Agent.

17. The number of plundering cases under Class 3 is very large,

| | Cases | Persons | Average of Previous Five Years | |
|------------------|-------|---------|--------------------------------|----------|
| | | | Cases. | Persons. |
| Plun- dering. | 86 | 180 | .. | .. |

though this is partly accounted for by Captain Oakes.

18. The Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that favourable notice is made of the exertions of Dood Ally

Darogah of Thannah Raipore, in apprehending certain persons who were in the habit of counterfeiting the coin. It does not however appear that the Darogah has been thought deserving of any special reward.

19. The proportion of convictions to acquittals, as shewn in the

| | Convicted | Acquitted. |
|----------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Arrested by Police .. 735 | 412 | 257 |
| Summoned by Magistrate .. 929 | 627 | 283 |

margin, is satisfactory.

The remaining prisoners were pending trial or had died.

20. Lieutenant-Governor is glad to observe that both Captain Oakes and his Subordinates have

performed their duties in a satisfactory manner.

21. I have only now to remark upon the two measures of reform which have been introduced into your Division during the year. It is very satisfactory to find that the New Rules of Police Procedure have been attended with such marked success, and that all classes of the people are pleased with the introduction of the viva voce system of examination.

22. In conclusion I am directed to convey to you the Lieutenant-Governor's acknowledgements for the able manner in which you have carried on the administration of your Division during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Offg. Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence.

No. 1172.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Lt. Col. T. Simpson,
Principal Assistant Commissioner,
Hazaribagh.

Dated, Chotanagpur, the 25th August, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter no. 450 of the 22nd instant and request you will have the goodness to carry out the arrangements proposed by you for temporarily establishing a Police Chowkey at Bishnugarh.

2. You will ascertain if the Bishnugarh ryots pay any cess for Police purposes, and if so, what becomes of it.

3. If they pay but little or more I think a small Chowkidaree tax might be raised in the town which is a considerable one and from this an adequate salary for a Jamadar might be obtained.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- E. T. Dalton,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence.

Memo No. 1252

The particular attention of the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh is called to the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th paras of the annexed remarks of the Hon'ble the Lt. Governor of Bengal on the Police report of the Division for 1859.

He will have the goodness to submit a special report on the cases of resistance of process showing how and where they originated and what means have been taken to check such contempt of his authority.

The Commissioner in examining the Hazaribagh Criminal Register observed a great laxity of supervision in regard to orders and processes issued.

By the reports received from the Hazaribagh Police Officers since the commencement of the year the Commissioner fears that the results as

regards arrests and convictions in offences against property is still as unsatisfactory as those commented on by the Hon'ble the Lt. Governor.

The Principal Assistant is directed to attend to the orders in para 14 the heinous cases should be reported as they occur and full particulars having been given they need not be repeated in the annual report.

Commissioner's office

Chotanagpur

The 6th Sept, 1860

By his most obedient servant,

Sd/ E. T. Dalton

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence.

No. 1396.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Lt. Col. T. Simpson.
Principal Assistant Commissioner,
Hazaribagh.

Dated, Chotanagpur the 28th Sept., 1860.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter no. 535 of the 25th instant, reporting a highway robbery with murder in the Golah Pergunah of which you appear to have first heard from the Principal Assistant of Manbhoom.

2. The robbery is stated in the petition to have been committed on the 15th September and you hear of it first on the 25th from an officer of another District. I presume you have taken proper notice of this gross negligence on the part of the Ramgurh Police.

3. The crime as reported appears most serious and it is necessary that you should yourself proceed to Golah or send your assistant there to concert measures for the apprehension of the perpetrators of this daring robbery.

4. I have addressed a Purwanah to the Maharajah as requested by you regarding the notorious bad character you state are still infesting the jungles of the Golah Pergunah. I have reminded the Maharaja of his liability to make good all losses arising to parties from such robberies as that now reported if he fail to secure the offenders, and directed him to go himself or send some trustworthy person with adequate means to root out this gang that now infests Golah. The Maharaja's party will act under your orders and superintendence or that of your assistant, should you be unable to go yourself.

5. I have to request you will be good enough to report all measures taken by you in regard to this case and the result.

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Yours most obedient servant,
Sd/- E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence

True Copy.

No. 89.

From

Capiain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur,

To

Lieutt. Coll. T. Simpson,
Principal Asstt. Commissioner of
Hazaribagh.

Dated, Camp Kurhurbaree, the 27th January, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you will have the goodness to
order the reports of the Khurruckdeah Thannah to
Police be made direct to you so long as you remain in the
Khurruckdeah District :—

2. This will enable you to take measures for the suppression of crime in this Thannadaree which has alarmingly increased. I find that during the year 1860—three cases of Dacoity, 11 of Highway Robbery, 39 of Burglary, 31 of Cattle lifting and 28 of Theft were reported to the Darogah and in not more than 9 of the above were any parties committed to the Deputy Magistrate but this is not all for I hear everywhere that the number of cases reported is not a moiety of the crime committed.

3. I find amongst the people a general want of confidence in those appointed for the administration of justice in this part of the Division owing it is stated to the failures of the Police to obtain convictions in cases sent in, and it is necessary that you should ascertain if this is owing to a want of one precaution on the part of the Darogah in sending in cases, as if so, he should be removed.

4. Instances of an extraordinary nature have been brought to my notice in my enquiries amongst the people of these failures,

5. The large increase in Cattle Thefts, Burglaries etc. is being generally ascribed to the fact of one Kunchun Deo sent in by the Police charged with 83 cases of Cattle stealing having been released on security.

6. It is asserted, as you will find if you enquire, that many cases have occurred in which the persons despoiled of cattle or other property have obtained it again on paying a fine to Kunchun Deo, and these cases are not reported at all to the Police. It is indeed further asserted that Kunchun Deo retaliates severely on those who do report.

7. If there be truth as I suppose there is in what is so generally asserted I should think it would not be difficult to bring Kunchun Deo to account for his crimes and I hope you will do so before you leave this part of your district.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- E. T. Dalton.

Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

Sd/- Illegible.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence

No. 1134 A.

From W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq.,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To the Commissioner of Chotanagpore.

Judicial

Fort William, the 8th May, 1861.

Sir,

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to acknowledge the receipt of the Police Report of the Chotanagpore Division for the year 1860, submitted by you, under date the 30th March last, and in reply to communicate to you the following orders and observations thereon :—

2. *Hazareebaugh*—The total number of offences committed in this District is considerably less than the average of the five previous years, while the reduction in the number of 1st class offences against the person, amounting to 80 per cent. on the number shewn in the Statement for the year 1859, is very satisfactory. The cases themselves do not require particular notice.

3. Statement No. 2, of offences against property, with violence shows a satisfactory reduction in regard to the number of offences

committed ; but the large proportion of acquittals to convictions gives the statement, as you observe, a very unfavourable appearance. But in spite of the decrease noticed above, the number of crimes committed is still large. The statistics of the present year shew the occurrence of twenty-two Dacoities and fifty-nine Highway Robberies. The greater proportion of these crimes were committed, the Lieutenant-Governor remarks, in the Golah Pergunnah and the Burhee Sub-Division. It would seem, from your 12th paragraph, that the majority of the outrages committed in that Pergunnah were the work of a band of escaped convicts. It is obvious from your report that, if the Jagheerdars had done their duty, these convicts would have been long ago apprehended. The Lieutenant-Governor notices that you have called upon these Jagheerdars to assist you in the detection of these crimes, and that an extra Police Station is to be kept up at their expense, until the Dacoits shall have been captured. These measures meet with the Lieutenant-Governor's entire approval.

4. All the energies of the Local Authorities should be directed to the prevention or detection of the violent crimes shewn to be prevalent in the Burhee Sub-Division and on the Grand Trunk Road. And the Lieutenant-Governor has no doubt that you will endeavour to trace out the complicity of any landholder in the crime of cattle stealing, which, from paragraph 20, there seems good reason to believe, exists.

| | | Police | Magisterial Officers | } the Police was 163, and 272 were sent in by order of the Magisterial Authorities. The results, which are shewn on the margin, are favorable to the Police. |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|----------------------|--|
| Convicted or Committed.. | 116 | 121 | | |
| Acquitted .. | 44 | 138 | | |
| Pending .. | 3 | 13 | | |
| | <u>163</u> | <u>272</u> | | |

6. Your proposal for re-forming the Kurruckdeah Police, alluded to in your 37th paragraph, has been submitted to the Revenue Board, for a report upon the nature of the Tenures which you state to be held under the liability of performing Police service. Upon the receipt of a reply from the Board the subject will be fully considered.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

(Sd.) W. S. Seton-Karr,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

No. 280

From

L. N. Pearson Esqr.,
Deputy Magistrate of Govindpur

To

Captain G. N. Oakes,
1st Class Deputy Commissioner of Manbhum.
Dated Govindpur, the 29 June, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that yesterday about 3. p.m. the Darogah of the thannah forwarded to me two baskets containing a human skull with some hair attached to it and the remains of a leg and foot with some skin and flesh adhering to the bones all in a very decomposed state. Besides these remains the baskets contained a little rice and some red powder and two legs of fowls, besides certain Income-tax forms bearing the signature of the 1st class Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh. The above rice and red powder are the usual implements of Bengallee Poojah. The baskets were carried from village to village by Chowkeedars and finally arrived at this Thannah where I think they must have been taken by the Chowkeedar.

2. I am going closely to investigate the matter, which I think will not be very difficult as the baskets were brought from village to village. At present I can only say that they came from Hazaribagh district. The Income-tax forms were in the name of one Banee Prosad, moonshee of Palgunge.

3. The affair is so unusual that I think it best at once to report to you. I can only account for it on the supposition that some human sacrifice must have been committed and I should be glad of any instruction, you may give me with regard to the investigations of the matter. I have at present sent a Barkundauze to bring in all the Chowkeedars, who took the baskets. I will report further directly I got a satisfactory clue.

I have etc.

Sd/- L. N. Pearson
Deputy Magistrate

No. 864

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur

To

Lt. Coll. I. Simpson,
1st Class Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh.
Dated Chotanagpur, the 8th July, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honour to annex copy of a communication from
No. 280D/29th ults Mr. Pearson Deputy Magistrate of Govindpore
reporting the receipt at the Govindpore Thannah of
human remains in two baskets with other things
indicative of there having been a sacrifice.

2. I also annex copy of a letter addressed by me to the Deputy
Commissioner of Manbhoom from which you will see
No. 865 D/- this day the instructions that have been issued for Mr. Pearson's
guidance, and these you will please to communicate to
Mr. Wilson who will look out for Mr. Pearson and be ready to take
up the enquiry.

3. I request you will give all the information you can regarding the
person called Beni Prasad to whom the Income tax returns were sent.
Has he delayed in filling up the statements or in paying his tax if so,
on what grounds. He should of course be examined and made to
explain as far as he can, how the returns sent to him could have turned
up in so mysterious a manner.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

Sd/- E. T. Dalton,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

No. 865.

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur

To

Captain G. N. Oakes.
1st Class Deputy Commissioner,
Manbhoom.

Dated Chotanagpur, the 8th July, 1861.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter no. 280 of the 29 ultimo, with enclosure from Mr. Pearson, reporting that two baskets had been received at Govindpur Thannah containing the remains of a human being.

2. The case is a very singular and mysterious one. There can be little doubt but that the remains are those of the victim of the human sacrifice, and it is of the utmost importance that the matter should be cautiously and skilfully enquired into so that the full clue may be obtained without giving unnecessary alarm to the persons through whom it will have to be traced back village by village to the place from which it came.

3. I rely on the energy and intelligence of Mr. Pearson to effect this and authorise him to follow up the clue into the adjoining district of Hazaribagh if necessary, and to continue the investigation in that district till he meets the officer incharge of the Subdivision who will be directed to be on the look out for him to take up and continue the investigation should it appear that the remains are those of a person murdered in his jurisdiction.

4. Your instructions to Mr. Pearson on the subject are approved—the reports you receive of his progress in investigating the case will of course be submitted to me.

5. I request from Mr. Pearson a more particular account of the appearance of the remains. The state of the flesh if examined by the native Doctor would probably enable him to arrive at some conclusion as to the time that had occurred since death. Did the flesh appear to have been cut or torn? Was the skull of a male or female? Were the papers found as if they had carelessly or accidentally or carefully and with a purpose deposited in the basket? Was the sending on of the baskets from village to village accompanied by any message or direction?

I have etc.,

Sd/-E. T. Dalton,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

No. 607.

From

Rivers Thompson, Esq.,
Offg. Secretary to the Board of Revenue.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Revenue Department.

Fort William, the 27 August, 1861.

Land Revenue.

Sir,

I am desired by the Board of Revenue to acknowledge the receipt of
Mr. Under-Secretary Bell's letters No. 34 A.,
H Stainforth and A. Geote Esqrs. dated the 9th January last, which enclosures, and
No. 63, dated the 26th April, relative to the Commissioner of Chotanagpore's proposition to withdraw the Government Police from Pergunnah Khurruckdeah and to throw upon the Landholders in that Estate the responsibility of keeping up an effective Police Establishment.

2. The single point on which the Board's opinion can be required by Government must concern the liability of the Khurruckdeah Ghatwals under the terms of their Settlement to be called on to keep up an effective Police Establishment. The Board have searched in vain for any record in their Office of the engagements executed by the Khurruckdeah Zemindars at the Decennial Settlement. That of the Ramghur Zemindar runs as follows:—

"I also engage to protect and defend the highways within the limits of my Estate so that the Travellers and Passengers may have safe ingress and egress, and will not harbour thieves or robbers therein, and if (which God forbid) the property of any one be stolen or plundered, produce the offender together with the property stolen or plundered".

3. These conditions are much to the same purport as those of the Ghatwals quoted in Major Dalton's 9th paragraph; but the Board believe that the Ramghur Rajah has never been held literally to their fulfilment, in the manner in which it is now proposed to hold the Khurruckdeah Ghatwals to the terms of engagements, bearing date antecedent to the Decennial Settlement. The services imposed by their Sunnuds on the Ghatwals were general, and had reference in the Board's opinion to the importance of their frontier position, rather than to internal Police administration; the cost of which Major Dalton

now apparently proposes to throw on them. The Board concur in the objections taken to carrying out this proposal as expressed in paragraph 8 or Mr. Bell's note, if, as they presume, no other duties have hitherto been exacted from the owners of the Khurruckdeah Gadees than it has been usual to require from Landholders in other Decennially settled Districts.

4. The Board believe that, if separate engagements were taken from the Ghatwals at the Decennial Settlement, were probably renewed the conditions of those previously taken, and differed therefore little from the engagements executed at the same time by the Ramghur Rajah.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Sd. Rivers Thompson

Off. Secretary to the Board of Revenue

Old Correspondence, Hazaribagh

(Volume of Correspondence from 1873-78 for Hazaribagh
preserved in the Commissioner's office Ranchi,
Collection no. II file no. 43 of 1873-1878)

Letter no. 391 from Col. Boddam, Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh to the Commissioner, Chotanagpur mentions how the Road Police system developed in Hazaribagh district. It is mentioned that before the E. I. Company took possession of Ramghur the Raja of Ramghur kept a large force at his expense and also gave away large tracts of lands and Jagir to his friends and relations to come to his aid when necessary. Ramghur was first leased to Raja Tej Singh on a jama of Rs. 30,000/- which was subsequently raised to Rs. 40,000/- per annum but troops had to be distributed all over the country to enable the Government not only to keep down the turbulent spirit but also to collect the revenue. After Tej Singh's death the lease went to Paras Nath Singh and then to Muni Nath Singh. Subsequently a ten-years settlement was given to Muni Nath Singh and the jama was fixed at since Rupees 26,271/12/9—Rupees 28,023/4/1 in a consideration of Muni Nath Singh giving up the Sayar duties and to keep up the Police to guard the Ghats and to be responsible for all losses by robbers. The annual revenue was subsequently reduced owing to remissions made for lands taken up by Government.

The settlement was afterwards made perpetual and till the end of 1861-62 the Raja of Ramghur paid the greater part of the cost of the regular Police in Ramghur and also kept Digwars, or road patrols wherever the Magistrate considered, from the prevalence of robberies or dacoities, that such patrols were necessary. The Rajas of Ramghur were vested with Magistrate powers.

In 1862 there was a reorganisation of Police and the Raja of Ramghur was relieved of his Magisterial powers (though subsequently was made an Honorary Magistrate) and also from the payment of the charges for any portion of the regular Police. The Raja was not exempt from the liability to keep up and pay for such Digwars and road Patrols. The Digwars were paid either direct through the Magistrate or else by a grant of land being made to Sardar Digwar who had to provide certain number of Digwars and guard certain ghats. This grant was resumable on the service terminating either by the Sardar resigning or being dismissed. Originally all the Digwars were paid through Sardar, Digwars or by the Parganais of the respective Parganas. Owing to complaint later the Digwars were paid through the D. C.

Boddam recommended that the zamindars should be called upon to pay to the Deputy Commissioner a sufficient sum to raise the pay of all the Digwars to Rs. 4/- each a month, secondly to abolish the Sowars and to substitute a certain number of Sardar Digwars and lastly to redistribute the Sardar and Digwars in such a way as to make their watch and ward effective and regular.

To this letter is attached a copy of a letter from W. Parry Davis Esqr., District Superintendent of Police to the Deputy Commissioner, Hazaribagh. He, however, thought that the existing arrangements regarding the regular Police should not be disturbed. What was required according to him was a better organised Road Police. He mentioned "a large majority of our dacoities and robberies are committed on the public roads in broad day light. On some of the ghats a single Digwar is expected to keep watch from day-light to dark and for this service he receives the handsome remuneration of -/12/- a month no wonder he leaves his ghat to cultivate his paternal bigas or to earn money in some other way. The Superintendent mentioned about two cases where the Digwars committed robberies."

In the subsequent letter Boddam explained to the Commissioner on the 14th September, 1875 how it was difficult to get work without the existing Road Police. The zemindar seldom paid the men appointed to patrol in cash but in land. The Sardar was supposed to keep an

adequate number of men but there was no one to see as to who actually patrol the ghat whether a child or a dotard. Ghatwals were not normally expected to look after the roads away from their villages.

At Khurruckdeah a number of mukaridars were called as Gadidars. Originally Police tenures, they had for so many years been absolved from the payment of any share of the thanadari establishment. The custom however of calling upon the Gadidars to assist the Magistrates by placing guards on Ghats and Roads if necessary had never been given up. The Gadidars however as a rule paid these Digwars monthly wages.

There are other letters showing that the Road Police inefficiency was a great blot on the Police administration of the district as admitted by the Superintendent of Police in a letter to the Deputy Commissioner on the 4th September, 1875. There were a large number of dacoities and robberies on the roads which fell in number if proper road Police arrangement had been made. The Superintendent of Police mentions "previous to 1873 dacoities in the jurisdiction of Chatra and Huntergunge were very numerous but since the 64 extra Digwars have been sanctioned for the roads in these two Police Stations there have been very few cases of dacoity".

"Up to the close of the last year there were constant dacoities on the road between Giridih and Hazaribagh; from the beginning of this year proper road posts have been established and consequently not a single dacoity has occurred".

At another place in the same letter he mentioned "the total monthly cash payment at present is Rs. 905/15/6. In addition to this the Ramghur Estate has to keep up six sawars at a monthly cost of Rs. 110/- making a total of 441 men employed and the total monthly cash Payment of Rs. 1034/3/6. A very great number of Digwars do not get more than a rupee a month and it must be admitted that it is absolutely impossible to expect men on two pice a day and less to give in return efficient service." The S. P. pointed out that a Chaukidar's case was different as he had the whole day to himself to earn his living but the Digwars is supposed to sit by the side of the road from the day light to dark and if he did so it would not be possible to carry on his other trade or calling. Besides the Digwars were scattered over the district without any special reference to the actual present requirements of the Public service. This letter gives detailed information as to the road Police arrangement on the different roads in the district.

The S. P. recommended that there should be a re-arrangement of the Digwars road post and the detailing out of the Digwars. On some roads such as Grand Trunk Road the posts will have to be much closer to each other than 9 or 10 miles where as on some of the Jangli roads they may be much further apart. He wanted the experiment to start with Ramghur Estate.

This letter of the S. P. has got a statement showing the roads in the district of Hazaribagh that had to be patrolled. This statement is useful showing the existing roads in 1875 and is reproduced verbatim. The spelling of the names has been retained.

Statement showing the Roads in the District of Hazaribagh that have to be patrolled.

| No. | Particulars | Length in miles | Total |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| <i>Provincial Roads Under the Ex. Engineer.</i> | | | |
| | Grand Trunk Road | 74 | |
| | Burhee and Hazaribagh | 22½ | |
| | Bugodhur Road | 32 | |
| | Giridih | 26½ | |
| | Ranchi from Hazaribagh to Banokhetra | 36 | 191 |
| <i>District Roads under the Road Cess Committee.</i> | | | |
| | Giridih and Khurrukdia | 26 | |
| | Gaya and Dioghur. | 50 | |
| | Dhunwar to Mirzagunge. | 13 | |
| | Pachumbea to Buddiha | 3 | |
| | Giridie to Toondi. | 24 | |
| | Mohesmoonda & Bengabad. | 14 | |
| | Dorundu and Doranda. | 16 | |
| | Paharpur and Bugodhur. | 36 | |
| | Burhee & Gawan. | 48 | |
| | Kodurma & Jainagger. | 7 | |
| | Chuttra and Chowparun. | 30 | |
| | Old Benaras road from Potiz | 11 | |
| | Chuttra and Daltongaj | 28 | |
| | Chuttra and Koonda | 16 | |
| | Balumath and Sherghatty | 50 | |
| | Etkori and Pudma | 12 | |
| | | <hr/> | |
| | | 384 | |

| No. | Particulars | Length in miles | Total |
|-----|---|-----------------|-------|
| | Huntergunge and Goraghat | 12 | |
| | Hazaribagh and Chattra | 42 | |
| | <i>Station Road</i> | | |
| | Old Benaras road from Hazaribagh towards west | 4 | |
| | Ramgarh to Gola and Gola to Pootriebi | 24 | |
| | Ramgarh to Jainugger | 14 | |
| | Gola to Gobindpore | 36 | |
| | Bissenghur to Gomia and Gomia to Pitarbar | | |
| | and Pitarbar to Kosmar | 38 | |
| | Old Ranchi road within the district | 45 | 599 |
| | <i>Jungly Roads.</i> | | |
| | Old Grand Trunk Road west of Hazaribagh | 52 | |
| | Do of east Hazaribagh | 26 | |
| | Gola to Purulia | 12 | |
| | Gomia to Dumri | 18 | |
| | Rout up Parasnath Hill | 15 | |
| | Echak to Burkutta | 14 | |
| | Gujjundi to Chowparun | 16 | |
| | Burhee to Gujjundi | 14 | |
| | Kodrama to Rajoli | 8 | |
| | Gujjundi to Rajoli | 6 | |
| | Kodrama to Saraghutty | 12 | |
| | Several small roads | 25 | 218 |
| | Grand Total | | 1008 |

Hazaribagh

The 4th September 75

Sd/- W. P. Davis

Dist. Superintendent of Police

(True Copy)

Sd/- Illegible

Head Clerk of Dy. Commissioner's Office.

This volume of correspondence also gives the drafts of the Bill for the regulation of the Ghatwali police in the districts of Bankura and Manbhum. The first draft was not approved and a second draft was made by the Deputy Commissioner of Lohardagga under the orders of the Lt. Governor.

EXCISE

No. 17271/2

From :

Lieutenant Coll, E. T. Dalton.
Commissioner of Chota Nagpore.

To :

R. S. Chapman, Esqr.
Secretary to the Board of Revenue L. P.
Fort William.

Dated Chotanagpur, the 14th September/65.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence noted in the margin I do myself the honour to submit to the Board of Revenue the propositions made by the Deputy Commissioners of Lohardaggah, Manbhoom and Hazareebaugh, with my approval, for the extension of the Central Distilleries in supercession of the outstill system in the three Districts.

Your endorse-
ment No. 39 Do
12 June/65 with
enclosure and
previous
correspondence.

2. The scheme provides for the complete suppression of outstills in the Manbhoom and Hazareebaugh Districts but there is one part of the Lohardaggah District in which it appears to me that it would be impossible to make central Distilleries pay and I propose in that tract to continue the outstills.

Chotanagpur :
1865
Extension of
Central
Distilleries.

3. The tract referred to is hilly and rugged, the villages scattered, the population sparse and wild. It may be considered as a chain of ballies skirting the hills of the adjoining tributary Mehals and separated from the tracts in which central Distilleries are to be established by other ranges of hills. The outstills in these tracts will not therefore interfere with the sales from the shops supplied from the Central Distilleries; whilst if we had no outstills the people would supply their wants from illicit stills from tributary Mehals with the excise arrangements in which we do not interfere. The present Revenue from the outstills in this tract is only Rs. 5127 but this amount we should probably lose altogether if central stills were substituted for we could not with our present police establishment put a stop to illicit distillation and Distilleries if set up would not pay their expenses.

4. Mr. Aliphant, submits a list of 10 new Central Distilleries the cost of constructing which he estimates at Rs. 2600/- but he asks for permission to appoint at once a portion of the establishment that will be required for the Distilleries to superintend the construction of the necessary buildings. I have considered it preferable to add a sum of Rs. 20 to the estimated cost of each Distillery to provide for the expenses of the necessary superintendence of the work -This makes the total sum required for this purpose in Lohardaggah to be 2800 Rs.

5. In the Hazareebaugh District eleven new Distilleries are proposed and the Deputy Commissioner is of opinion that sufficiently commodious buildings can be constructed at 200/- Rs. The estimate appears to me too low and I have somewhat modified it proposing for the building to be constructed at Khurruckdeah Rs. 300 instead of Rs. 200/- and giving to each an additional 20 Rs. for expenses of superintendence the sum required for Hazareebaugh is therefore Rs 2520/-

6. In Manbhoom six more buildings will be required and the Deputy Commissioner estimates their cost at only 200/- Rs. I propose to allow Rs. 300 for the Burrakur Sudder Distillery as that station is now a railway terminus and as in the other Districts to give 20 Rs. more to each building for superintendence.

7. It is indispensable that the construction of the necessary buildings should be commenced immediately on the cessation of the rains—I solicit therefore early sanction to the necessary expenditure of Bs. 6,240/-

8. I append copies of letters from the Deputy Commissioners of Lohardagga, Hazareebaugh and Manbhoom and copy of a letter from the Deputy Collector Baboo Kalidass Palit-although on the probable financial result of the proposed changes, but enough has been said on this subject in the correspondence that has already taken place. We are prepared for an immediate falling off in the Excise Revenue, but it is impossible to predicate what it will amount to. My own attention and that of the Deputy Commissioners will be directed to the measures necessary to work the new system as successfully as possible.

I have etc.
(Sd.) E. T. Dalton.
Commissioner.

(True Copy)
(Sd.) Illegible.

No. 946 Do. 9th
September 65.
No. 515 Do.
July 65 No. 998
Do. 17 Do.

Reg. No. 1857
Recd. 24-10-65

From

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur.
No. 1892

Dt. 21. }
Recd. 24 } No. 65.

Subject

Forwards correspondence regarding the extension Central Distilleries and calls for certain report.

No. 1892.

From

Lt. Col. E. T. Dalton.
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Major H. M. Boddam,
Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh.

Dated Chotanagpur, the 21st October, 65.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 515 dated 18th July, 65, I have the honour to annex for your information copy of a letter No. 88 dated the 14th October, 65 containing the orders of the Board of Revenue and my proposal for the extension of Central Distilleries in their districts of this Division a copy of my letter No. 1727 dated the 20th September, 65 and proposition statement is also annexed that you may see the modifications made by and on your proposals.

2. The whole amount required for the construction of the necessary buildings having been sanctioned, you will be good enough to get them ready in good time so that all may be in working order by the 1st May next.

3. The buildings should I think, be completed before the end of March so that the persons authorised to set up stills may have a clear month to make their arrangements. Encouragement should be given to the introduction of superior description of stills.

4. Due notice should be given throughout the Country except certain tract to be indicated all outstills will be closed from the 30th April and all supplies of country spirits taken from the Central Distilleries. You will have the goodness to submit the opposition

statement of Establishment required by the Board of Revenue, as still sanctioned the cost of these Establishment cannot be included in the Budget Estimates. You will notice the Board's instructions regarding the adjustment in the Budget of the amount sanctioned for buildings.

I imagined the whole sum will be expended within the current year and should be included in an application for extra Budget grant unless you can report that you have funds to meet it in the Budget grant for 1865-66.

5. You will submit atonce an indent for gallon measures required and report what has to be done in regard to the ground rent of the distilleries.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sd.) Illegible.

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.



MISCELLANEOUS

Digest of Old English Correspondence From Hazaribagh Collectorate Record Room—Economic Condition.

From letter no. 582 of 1851 dated the 23rd October, 1851, it appears that there was a general failure of crops for want of rain and the situation had much deteriorated. It appears that in certain parts, for several days, there was continuous downpour which also had affected the paddy seedlings. It was reported that the rice crop on an average could not exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the usual quantity and a certain amount of distress was inevitable. This letter, however, did not indicate as to what steps were taken to meet the situation.

Regarding Chuttra Captain Simpson, Principal A. A. Governor General, South West Frontier on January, 1853 observes "Inspected the police thana at Chuttra. I find this Town has been increasing since I was last here to some 4 years back. Many new Tolahs or houses where grain in large quantities is deposited and 'Beparees' put up have been erected on the south of the Town on the road leading from Shergathi to Chotanagpore. The city of Chuttra comprises with its environs probably about 3,000 Houses and contains at least between 15 and 20,000 inhabitants."

From a letter, dated the 13th March, 1856 it appears that Hazaribagh Penitentiary and the District Jail used to make white Satrangee, red Satrangee, black Satrangee, Durrie, Blankets, horse cloth, saddle cloth, towels, dasooti cloth, chair, etc. Regarding the prices, a good blanket cost raw material worth -/2/2 and the price charged was -/3/-. The cost of a towel was -/2/9 whereas a Durrie -/7/- and the same price was charged for a Satrangee. Two chairs were priced at Rs. 5/- only.

On the 11th December, 1856, Mr. George the Special Assistant Commissioner submitted a detailed account of the expenses for hutting the troops on duty at Hazaribagh. This statement is important for showing the price of some of the commodities and wages of labourers. For a rupee 1000 poolas of straw and 400 bamboos could be obtained. 23 maunds and 20 seers of chope-rope was available for Rs. 9/4/9. 8 large Khambas or poles could be had for a rupee while small Khambas or poles were available at 16 to 30 per rupee. The wages of carpenters were -/2/11 per day while Ghuramis were available at -/1/11 per day. The wages of labourers were 11½ pic each per day while Kudaliwala

could be got for 10.3/4 pie a day. Rujmistris and men were paid -/2/- each. Extra good carpenters had to be paid the wages of -/3/- per day.

A very old map found in a file of 1876 shows the trade of the Chutia Nagpur Division comprising the districts of Lohurdaga, Hazaribagh, Manbhum and Singhbhum with the tributary estates of Chang-Bhakar, Korea, Sarguja, Jaspur, Udaipur, Gangpur and Bonai under the jurisdiction of the Lt. Governor of Bengal on a scale of 16 miles to 1 inch.

According to this map the principal marts in Hazaribagh district are at Chapparar, Burhee, Barkatta, Bagodar, Topchanchi, Govindpur, Petar-Burh, Gola, Ramgarh, Hazaribagh, Chatra, Giridih and Mirzaganj. The lines of traffic are from Chapparar to Chatra and onwards to Daltonganj. Other lines of traffic are from Topchanchi to Giridih and from Giridih to Mirganj. The only existing line of Railway as shown in the map is from Madhupur via Jagdishpur to Giridih. The map also shows indications of proposed lines of Railway. There are none of Hazaribagh district. The main proposed line of Railway for Chutia Nagpur Division, according to this map, is from Barakar to Bilaspur via Raghunathpur, Purulia, Chandil, Chakradharpur and Bilaspur. The main existing railway line for Chota Nagpur Division is the line from Burdwan to Gidhaur via Panagah, Raniganj, Barakar, Jamtara, Madhupur, Baidyanath and towards Gidhaur. As mentioned before there is only a small section of Railway line from Mirzapur via Jagdishpur to Giridih.

The main permanent marts in Lohardaga (Ranchi district) according to this map were Ranchi, Bundu, Tamar, Lothma, Palkot, Biru, Lohardaga and Puoria. The main line of traffic in Lohardaga district were from Lohardaga towards Chatra, from Lohardaga towards Jaspur, from Lohardaga towards Sambalpur via Palkot Biru and Saudi, from Ranchi to Daltonganj, from Lohardaga to Ranchi, from Ranchi to Sambalpur, from Ranchi to Chaibasa and from Ranchi to Ramgarh in Hazaribagh district.

The main permanent marts in Manbhum district according to this map, were Chandil, Pathkum, Silli, Jhalda, Purulia, Nodiara, Chakaltore, Balrampur, Barabazar, Manbazar, Raghunathpur and Chandil. Purulia, the district headquarters, was on the proposed line of railway along with Raghunathpur, Balrampur and Chandil. The main lines of traffic were from Purulia, Barakar via Raghunathpur, Purulia to Bankura, from Purulia via, Sambalpur, Chaibasa towards Keonjhar,

from Purulia via Jhalda to Ranchi and from Purulia to Bankura. The main permanent marts in Singhbhum district were Chaibasa, Seraikella, Kharswan, Chakradharpur and Sona. The main lines of traffic were from Chaibasa to Ghatshilla, from Chaibasa via Serampur towards Chandil. From Chaibasa to Chakradharpur and then on to Ranchi.

Another important feature of this map is that certain areas are shown as exporting to Gya, Gridih and Madhupur. Such areas are what now will be the Palamau district. The main marts in this area are Daltonganj, Garwa, Husainabad and Maharajganj. This area then formed a part of Lohardaga district. The main lines of traffic were from Daltonganj, Maharajganj and from Dobhi to Garwa and from Daltonganj towards Lohardaga. Another principal line was from Daltonganj to Gya which ran almost parallel to another route from Daltonganj to Champaran via Chatra.

Another area shown in the map as exporting to Gya, Giridih and Madhupur was the area round about to Giridih which covered the mart of Maharajganj. The third such area is a portion of Singhbhum district in which the principal marts are Bhairagora, Ghatshila and Huldipukur.

This important map is shown having been reproduced from an original supplied to the Secretary to the Government of India, D.P.W. Railway construction.

From Record Room, Ranchi, "Volume V. 1851-1853

The Journal of tour kept by Capt. Simpson in the cold season of 1852-53 gives certain interesting facts regarding the physical features, crops, the people etc. *This Journal is rather important.* At one place he mentions "At this place met the Rajah of Ramgarh who had come from Etchauk. Etchauk is about 2 miles from this spot and shows picturesquely from the road. The road was formerly made by Government, but has not been kept in proper repairs since Hazaribagh ceased to be a Military station. The Rajah of Ramgarh keeps it in a state passable for carts, which is the most that can be expected from him. Observed some bullock loads of the bark of a tree, called Lode, enroute to Dinapore. It is used apparently as a mordant in dyeing. The crops seen are chiefly mustard and sugarcane. "The rocks observed were all primitive stratified ones, allied to gneiss, passing into quartz."

In other place he mentions it is surprising that the jungle that was dense should have continued to exist in the neighbourhood of so large

and ancient city of Gya. The position of Kodarma was eminently calculated for the residence of a robber-chief. On the high road to Patna, with dense jungles and deep ravines rounded, the wonder is rather that the Rajah should have been so tame a plunderer as he appears to have been.

Regarding a trailing plant in some almost inaccessible spots called Goonesh, he observed that it was said to be an excellent medicine in fever. It is difficult to spot the plant now.

Regarding Chuttra, Captain Simpson, Principal ; A. A. Governor-General, South-West Frontier, in January, 1853, observes "Inspected the Police thana at Chuttra find this town has been increasing since I was last here to some four years back. Many new Tolahs or houses where grain in large quantities is deposited and 'Beparees' put up have been erected on the south of the Town on the road leading from Shergathi to Chotanagpore. The city of Chuttra comprises with its environs probably about 3,000 houses and contains at least between 15 and 20,000 inhabitants."

It appears that officers falling sick used to be given long leave to proceed to sea. Dr. Kelley, Civil Assistant Surgeon at Hazaribagh on the 19th June, 1854, recommended William Gill, officiating Daroga of the Agency Jail, to have leave to proceed to the sea for the change of air as he was suffering from bad type of rheumatism and eye troubles.

The practice of Churruck appears to have been prevalent in the Hazaribagh district as well. In letter no. 111 of 1855 to the Commissioner of Chotanagpore, it was reported that many persons were in the habit of making a vow that if they obtained some desired object, or were successful in any particular business in which they might be engaged, they would swing on the Churruck for a certain number of years, during which time they beg their way and live on charity. The Rajah of Ramghur reported that the practice was prevalent in his jurisdiction and that no one practised it as a regular profession or means of gain. The practice was not, however, enjoined in any Shastra and the Raja was of opinion that no difficulty would be experienced in putting stop to it. It was recommended that the parties should be made subject to penalties under the general Regulations if it had to be stopped.

Hazaribagh Old Correspondence:

From the Record Room Ranchi, Volume VI. 1854-55

1. Dr. Kelley, Civil Assistant Surgeon, reported on the 9th March, 1855, to Major Simpson, Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh, as to the suitability of the climate of Hazaribagh to the European constitution. He considered the climate to be well adopted for the Europeans if properly housed. He wanted houses to be sufficiently high above the level of the ground and well-ventilated. He recorded that he did not have much of statistics particularly regarding the mortality and diseases amongst the European corps. From his observations over 18 months by the Aneroyed Barometer he thought its height to be 2050 ft. above the sea level.

1855
Hazaribagh's
climate claimed
to be suitable
for Europeans

Old English Correspondence

From Hazaribagh D. C.'s Record Room

Correspondence Volume of 1856

1. It appears that there was a French Exhibition held at the beginning of 1855 for which a Local Committee was set up at Hazaribagh for the collection of works of art and industries. There is a statement of articles which was obtained for this exhibition. The statement shows that from Hazaribagh 2½ seers of iron, 5 seers of iron-ore, 3 seers of mica, from Singhbhum 6½ annas weight of gold-dust, a piece of copper, 8 annas weight beejor gold, from Lohardagga, gold, iron, copper, Surguja oil, Mahua oil were procured.

French Exhibition
of 1855.

Major Simpson was the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh in 1856. W. C. Spencer was the Junior Assistant to the Commissioner, South-West Frontier posted at Hazaribagh, W. I. Allen was the Commander and the Superintendent of Police, Chotanagpur.

1. From the correspondence of 1855, it appears that vaccinators used to be deputed to the Camp of the Principal Assistant Commissioner and of the District Munsifs during their cold weather tours and the officers were required to take every opportunities to explain to the people the advantages of vaccination. By this means vaccination was spread as a safeguard.

Medical Service

*Hazaribagh Old Correspondence Volume 1869-60 2/D***Triplicate.**

The Secretary of the State in Council of India Dr. Abstract of Establishment of the Deputy Collector of Hazaribagh for the month of July, 1859.

Sudder Office.

| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Baboo Kalidas Palit, Deputy, Collector | 0-0-0 | |
| Nepaul Chunder Sen, English Writer | 20-0-0 | |
| Moonshee Mirza Imadadally, Mohureer | 12-0-0 | |
| Chaudhury Neerup Nauth Singh, Mohureer | 7-0-0 | |
| Duftry | 4-0-0 | |
| 8 Chaprasies at 4 Rs. each | 32-0-0 | 75-0-0 |

Chatra Division

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Gangahorry Roy, Darogah | 40-0-0 | |
| Dhunookdhary, Muhureer | 10-0-0 | |
| 10 Chaprasies at Rs. 4 each | 40-0-0 | |
| Stationery | 1-0-0 | 91-0-0 |

Khurruckdia Division.

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Barajolall Ghore Darogah | 40-0-0 | |
| Umbica Churan, Mohureer | 10-0-0 | |
| 8 Chaprasies at 4 Rs. each | 32-0-0 | |
| Stationery | 1-0-0 | 83-0-0 |

Hazaribagh Division.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|
| Gourhorry Roy, Darogah | 40-0-0 | |
| Monshee Meah Khan, Mohureer | 10-0-0 | |
| 4 Chaprasies at 4 Rs. each | 16-0-0 | |
| Stationery | 1-0-0 | 67-0-0 |

Total Company's Rupees Three Hundred and sixteen 316-0-0
 Deputy Collector's office
 Hazaribagh Division
 The 1st of August 1859.

Sd/- Illegible,
 Principal Assistant Comm.
 Deputy Collector.

No. 5156.

From

A. R. Young, Esqr.,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal

To

Baboo Kalidas Palit,
Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector of Manbhoom
Fort William, the 15th August, 1859.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Lt. Governor has been pleased to appoint you the charge of the Sub-Division Govindpore, and to vest you in addition to the powers you already have, with the powers under Section I Act X of 1854 in Manbhoom which powers you will exercise within the Subdivision to which you are now appointed :—

(True Copy)
(Sd.) Illegible
Dy. Collector.

I have etc.
(Sd.) A. R. Young,
Secretary to Government of Bengal.

Old Correspondence Volume Hazaribagh, Year—1860

No. 636

From

Captain E. T. Dalton,
Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

To

Lieutt. Coll. J. Simpson,
Principal, Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh,
Dated Chotanagpur, the 8th May, 1860.

Sir,

As the son of the disqualified Raja of Dhunwar and the young Rajah of Palgunge are both now of age when their Education would be attended, I think it very desirable that they should be brought either to Hazaribagh or in Burhee to receive their instruction under your personal superintendence or that of Mr. Wilson, or be sent for the purpose to Kishnagarh or in other college.

2. I have the honor therefore, to request you will instruct Mr. Wilson to have the goodness to communicate on the subject with their mothers and guardians of the minors and ascertain their wishes informing them that it is the wish of Government, that they should be fitted by a proper education for the important duties that will devolve

on them when they attain their majority. and the Government further considers it a duty to see that such education is given to young Zamindars who are wards of the State.

3. It is true that we have not taken these Estates under the Court of Wards but this, it should be explained, may be done at any time if it be found that the interests of the minors are not properly attended to under the existing management.

4. There are, I believe other minor zamindars in Khurruckdiha to whom these remarks equally apply and I have to request you will report under what arrangements the Rajah of Koonodah is educated and what progress has been made in his Education.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

Sd/- E. T. Dalton,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur

Year—1860.

No. 56,

From

The Joint Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
P. W. Department, Railway Branch.

To

The Secretary to the Board of Revenue.
Fort William, 22nd June, 1860.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Revenue Board's Report No. 283 of the 22nd May, 1860, respecting the enquiries made with a view of obtaining a lease of the Nurhurballie Coal Fields for the Government, and in reply to state that the Lieut. Governor of Bengal, after considering your letter, withdraws all action of Government in this matter, and requests that no further steps may be taken by the Civil Officers to obtain the land for Govt.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Sd/ Illegible, Captain,

Joint Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
P. W. Dept., Railway Branch.

No. 45.

Copy forwarded for the information and guidance of Commissioner of Chotanagpur, with reference to his letter No. 565, dated 27th April, last, the original enclosures of which are returned,

By order of the Board of Revenue
Fort William, the 3rd July, 1860
Sd/ Illegible
Secretary.

Memo No. 944.

Copy forwarded for the information and guidance of the Prinl. Asst. Commissioner of Hazaribagh with reference to previous correspondence on the subject.

Commissioner's office
Camp, Govindpore
the 16th July, 1860.

By his most obedient servant,
Sd/ Illegible,
Commr. of Chotanagpur.

Year—1860

From

W. Grey, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department, to W. S. Seton-Karr, Esq., Officiating
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,—(No. 1699,
dated the 10th September, 1860)

Sir,

His Excellency the Governor General in Council, having observed that a disposition to form Volunteer Rifle Corps has been manifested at some of the Stations in the Upper Provinces of this Presidency, is desirous that no useful aid which the Government of India can conveniently give in furtherance of this object should be wanting. His Excellency in Council thinks it advisable, therefore, that the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor should be in possession of the general views of the Government of India upon the subject, in order that any enquiries which may be addressed to the Government of Bengal may at once be answered.

2. His Excellency in Council is of opinion that where the formation of a Rifle Club, and of nothing more, is desired by the community, and where no discipline is sought to be acquired, it will probably be most agreeable to those concerned that the whole of the arrangements should be left in their own hands, without any action on the part of Govern-

ment ; and I am directed to suggest to the Government of Bengal the adoption of this course in such cases.

3. When the formation of an organized and partially drilled Corps is contemplated at any Presidency, Town or Station, the Government of India will be prepared to aid the object in the following manner :—

A Rifle and Bayonet, with the proper Accoutrements, will be issued to each Member, on the following conditions :—

1st.—That as a general rule, but subject to special exceptions, the Corps shall consist of not less than fifty enrolled Members.

2nd.—That the Rules and Regulations for the Government of the Corps be drawn up by its Members, but submitted to and approved by the Executive Government or Authority.

3rd. That the Drill shall be conducted regularly, according to such rules as the Executive Government or Authority may approve, under a Drill Instructor appointed and paid by the Government.

4th. That the Commanding Officer, though chosen, like all other Officers, by the Corps, shall be approved by the Executive Government or Authority before any issue of Arms shall take place ; and that he shall be personally responsible to the Government for the safe custody and good condition of the Arms issued to his Corps, the expense of keeping the Arms in repair being borne by the funds of the Corps.

5. That beyond a certain amount of Practice Ammunition, which will be determined hereafter, and issued from the Government Magazines free of cost, all further Ammunition shall be paid for at cost price.

6th. That the Members of each Corps shall choose and provide themselves with such uniform as they think suitable.

7th, That upon any enrolled Member quitting the Corps, or ceasing to reside in the neighbourhood of the Presidency, Town, or Station at which it is formed, his Arms and Accoutrements shall be returned to the Government Store before being re-issued to any new Member.

8th. That the Corps shall be subject to periodical inspection by an Officer named by the Government.

9th. That no Officer or Non-Commissioned Officer of the Army shall be eligible for enrolment in the Corps in any rank, unless he shall be holding a Civil appointment and shall have no connection at the time with Military duties of any kind whatsoever.

4. I am to add that it is probable that, with the approval of His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, and under such regulations as he may see fit to prescribe, the use of the Government practising ground

and targets may be allowed to any duly organized Volunteer Rifle Corps that may apply for such permission.

5. Lastly, I am directed to state that if any further Regulations or Conditions for the formation of Volunteer Rifle Corps should be found to be desirable, they will be framed upon the basis of the War-Office Circulars of July, 1859, and of February and March 1860, with such modification as may render them suitable for application in India.

(True Copy)

T. Jones,
Registrar, Bengal Secretariat.

Old Correspondence Volume, Hazaribagh. Year 1860.

(CIRCULAR)

No. 4803

From

H. Bell, Esq.,

Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagur

Fort William, the 15th September 1860.

Judicial.

Sir,

I am directed to forward, for your information and guidance, and for communication to the Magistrates of the several Districts in your Division, the accompanying copy of a letter No. 1699, dated the 10th instant, from the Secretary the Government of India in the Home Department, relative to the formation of Volunteer Rifle Corps in India.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant

H. Bell.

Under Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

Cir. Memo No. 1362

Copy of the foregoing circular with enclosure, forwarded for the information and guidance of the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh.

By his most obedient servant,

Chotanagpur,

The 24th September, 1860

(Sd.) Illegible,

Commissioner of Chotanagpur.

Old Correspondence Volume, Hazaribagh, Year—1860

From

Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Young, Secretary to the Government
of Bengal, in the Public Works Department,

To

Colonel, A. Beecher, C. B. Quarter-Master General of the
Army,

No. 4291 dated the 19th October, 1860.

Sir,

In connection with the subject of Sanataria for European Troops, Major Maxwell, the Superintending Engineer of the Behar Circle, was desired by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal to take measures for obtaining careful observations in regard to the temperature and rain-fall during the year at the "Chendwar Hill" about three miles distant from Hazaribagh; and also to submit a report on the general capabilities of the hill as a Depot for convalescents from the neighbouring cantonments.

2. I am desired to submit, in original, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Commander-in-chief, the reply received from Major Maxwell,* together with its appended papers.

3. It will be seen that the Chendwar Hill has an elevation of 2,815 feet above the level of the sea, and of 735 feet above the cantonment.

4. The average Thermometric range for the month of August was--

70 $\frac{6}{10}$ at 7 A.M.

78. $\frac{4}{10}$ at 12 O' Clock.

71. 9 at 4 P.M.,

and for the month of July it was

72 $\frac{5}{10}$ at 7 A.M.

77 $\frac{4}{10}$ at 12 O' Clock.

72 $\frac{7}{8}$ at 4 P.M.

These observations were taken by the Executive Engineer's Department, but Major Maxwell does not place much reliance upon them, owing to some very obvious inaccuracies which are apparent, such as making the temperature on the 5th July at 5 P.M. to be sixty-six degrees only; and again at noon on the 13th idem to be ninty-four

* With Chief Engineer's Memorandum No. 3131, of 29th ultimo.

degrees, which is considerably higher than it was even at Hazareebaugh.

5. A Register, however, has also been obtained from Dr. Delpratt, Civil Assistant Surgeon of the station ; and he states the average temperature in the month of August to be

$80 \frac{7}{10}$ at 10 A.M.

$80 \frac{9}{10}$ at 4 P.M.

With a rain-fall of 18.20 for the same month.

6. These observations may be relied on ; and they show that the range of the Thermometer on the hill is about two degrees lower than that in the plain below. The air is said to be considerably purer.

7. Dr. Morton, Surgeon of Her Majesty's 6th Regiment, stationed at Hazareebaugh, says that the hill is 900 feet above the station and that there is an average difference of some three or four degree temperature between the mean of both. He recommends the construction of a barrack for fifteen or twenty men on the hill top, where the Superintending Engineer says there is building room ; and he thinks that it would be very conducive to the health of convalescents, in which opinion Major Maxwell, the Superintending Engineer, seems to concur.

8. The objections to such a step are the want of water and the prevalence of thick jungle ; in consequence of which, and the fear of wild beasts, the hill itself is not tenanted although there is a residence and coffee plantation at the foot of it. The path to the top is only a mile in length.

9. I am accordingly directed by the Lieutenant—Governor to say that, if His Excellency thinks that a small barrack for about sixteen men would be useful on the hill, arrangements can be made towards accomplishing the object at once.

10. The Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that, after obtaining the site, it will be prudent to clear around, and to erect only a small building at first; as there can never be absolute certainty of such a place being healthy till actual experience has proved it so, though from the elevation being nearly 3,000 feet above the sea, there can be no doubt in that latitude that the hill is above the general fever height, which indeed the plain itself is.

11. For a small number of convalescents, water can be carried up. But the Lieutenant-Governor does not think that any proper attempt

has ever been made in India to store rain-water in loco as is done in many other parts of the World successfully in close under-ground tanks. And if the hill is approved as a sanatorium for convalescents, His Honor thinks it could be an appropriate place for an experiment in this way.

12. The return of the original enclosures is requested.

(True Copy)

Sd/ F. R. Boyes,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of Bengal, in the
Public Works Department.

Year 1860.

From

Colonel, A. Becher, C. B., Quarter-Master General
of the Army.

To

Lieutenant-Colonel, C. B. Young, Secretary to the Govt.
of Bengal, in the Public Works Department,

(No. A., dated the 29th October, 1860.)

Sir,

I am desired to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4291, dated 19th instant, and with reference to say that the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by myself this morning, went up to the top of the Chendwar as the Natives call it Jhooljhoor Hill. This personal inspection entirely confirms all the favourable accounts which have been submitted for His Honour's information. His Excellency entirely concurs with the very just appreciation which the Lieutenant-Governor has formed of the value of this hill as a sanatorium for the troops at Hazaribagh. The only disadvantages attending it a want of water can be effectually remedied by constructing cisterns under or near to the barracks which could be filled with water during the rainy season by a system of gutters which would conduct the rain from the roofs of the barracks into these cisterns, this supply of water would be abundantly sufficient for the requirements of the men on the hill. If it were not so, rain water might be collected in tanks hewn out of the rock in the vicinity. Sir H. Rose has no apprehension of want of water by making use of cisterns for collecting rain. As in Syria and other parts of the East where there are no wells, the inhabitants of large towns are solely supplied by the cistern system which the Commander-in-Chief describes,

Under these circumstances, while thanking His Honour warmly for the interest which he has so kindly shown for the health of the soldiers, the Commander-in-Chief will feel obliged if he would order the completion of the sanatorium for two buildings to accommodate fifteen men each with the necessary out-offices, so as to place it at the disposal of the station of Hazareebagh by the setting in of next hot season.

The Commander-in-Chief instructed the Executive Engineer to place the buildings, so that they shall receive the full benefit of the prevailing winds.

The enclosures of your letter are herewith returned, and it is requested that copies of the same may be furnished me at early convenience, as no copies have been taken for my office.

No. 4626

From

Lieutenant-Colonel, C. B. Young,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
in the Public Works Department.

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur
P. W. Department, Military Accommodation for Troops.
Fort William, the 14th Nov. 1860.

Sir,

I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to forward for your information and guidance, a copy of the correspondence noted on the margin, having reference to the establishment of a small sanatorium for convalescent soldiers on the Chendwar or Jhooljhood Hill, about three miles distant from Hazaribagh.

To Quarter-Master
General of the
Army, No. 4291
of 19th Oct. 1860
From Ditto,
No. A. of
29th idem.

2. In order to give effect, to this project, you are requested to make immediate arrangements for obtaining possession by purchase of the site, or the whole of the waste part of the hill, which is above the coffee plantation, and will not be required by it.

3. The result of your operation should be reported through the Board of Revenue, to whom a copy of these Orders will be sent.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,
C. B. Young, Lieut.-Colonel
*Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
in the Public Works Department.*

No. 1290.

From

Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Young,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
in the Public Works Department,

To

The Surveyor-General of India and Supdt. of
Revenue Surveys,
P. W. Department Military, Accommodation for Troops.
Fort William, the 30th March 1881.

Sir,

The Civil Authorities at Chotanagpore have applied for a plan exhibiting the area and boundaries of the land required for the new sanatorium on the Parasnath Hill.

2. Major Maxwell, the Superintending Engineer, to whom the application was addressed, says that a plan of the station has not yet been prepared ; and as regards the boundaries, that he has no means of completing the Survey required, having no person in Establishment attached to his capable of undertaking the work.

3. It being represented by the Superintending Engineer that there is a Revenue Survey Establishment at present employed in the neighbouring District, I am directed by the Lieutenant-Governor to report that a party from it may be ordered to make a regular survey of the lands required for the new Station at Parasnath ; it is believed that the Surveyor of the District can do all that is required during his recess without in any way interfering with his other important duties.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor intends proceeding in a few days hence to Parasnath, when the question of boundary limits be referred for his consideration and orders.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
C. B. Young, Lieut-Colonel,
Secy. to Govt. of Bengal, P. W. D.

No. 1291.

Copy of the above letter forwarded to the Superintending Engineer, Behar Circle, with reference to his letter No. 353, dated 15th instant, to the address of the Chief Engineer, Lower Provinces.

Sd/- C. B. Young,
Lieutenant-Colonel,

Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal, P. W. D.

Memo No. 3844

Gaya, 9th April, 61.

Forwarded for the information of the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazareebagh, with reference to letter No. 40, dated 23rd April, 61 to the address of the undersigned.

Sd/- Illegible,
Superintending Engineer,
Behar Circle.

No. 2370.

From

Lieutenant Colonel C.B. Young,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
in the Public Works Department,

To

The Superintending Engineer, Bihar Circle.
P. W. Department, Military,

Fort William, the 30th May, 1861
Accommodation for Troops

Sir,

With reference to your Memorandum No. 121 of the 9th instant, to the address of the Chief Engineer, I am directed to inform you that, for the present, no measures need be adopted for taking possession of the lands required for the proposed sanatorium upon the Chendwar Hill near Hazaribagh.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,
Sd/- C. B. Young, Lt. Col.
in the Public Works Department

No. 217

From

J. D. Gordon Esqr.,
Junior Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

To

The Commissioner of Chotanagpur,
Fort William the 13th Sept. 1861

Sir,

I am desired to transmit to you the accompanying extract, paragraphs 24 to 27 from Dr. Payne's Annual Report*
Medical on the state of Dullunda Lunatic Asylum during the year 1860-61, and to say that the Lt. Governor fully concurs in that officer's remarks as to not sending lunatics whom it is not a public object to confine, and whose families can afford to maintain them to an asylum to be maintained gratuitously. In such cases the relations of harmless lunatics, who are in good circumstances, should be required to pay for their maintenance at the asylum or else should be left to maintain them at home.

2. You will be so good as to call the attention of the Magistrate in your Division to this subject and to impress upon them the necessity for the exercise of greater discretion in the transmission of insanes to public Lunatic Asylums.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient servant
Sd/- J. D. Gordon

Junior Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal

Extract (Paragraph 24 to 27) from Dr. Payne's Annual Report on the state of the Dullunda Lunatic Asylum during the year 1860-61 dated the 1st July 1861.

Para 24. It remains to correct, as far as possible those external abuses and inconveniences to which the Asylum is exposed from careless transmission of insanes by Magistrates and others to which I have already alluded, and by which much unnecessary expense is entailed on the Government.

Para 25. It is a common practice with officers empowered to order the admission of such persons to sign the papers presented by their subordinates with little or no enquiry into the case, and often, I have reason to believe without even seeing the person. This laxity appears sometimes to arise from an impression that a medical certificate is all that is necessary to justify an order whereby the Government is

* dated 1st July, 1861

burthened with the maintenance of a lunatic. No regard is paid to the fact that where an unconditional order of admission is issued this asylum is (illegible) and that many persons who apply for the admission of relatives, are well able to take care of them at home, if they are harmless or to pay for their maintenance in the asylum, if they are not, and in this manner an useful public charity is subject to abuse. It is, I submit, very desirable that the attention of Magistrate be directed authoritatively to this point and that they be reminded that there are other considerations connected with the admission of an insane to a pauper asylum besides the mere fact of his insane. That nothing further is required for the correction of this abuse than that the attention of officers be clearly pointed to it, is seen in the success which has followed the method adopted within the last few weeks in the cases of persons admitted from Calcutta and its environs who are capable of paying for their maintenance. Such payment has been made without hesitation by several persons from whom, after careful enquiry and in to their circumstances I have demanded it, and in the Bill for the current month, a sum will accordingly appear to the credit of Government on this account for the first time in the history of the Institution.

Para 26. Under this just and proper system the relatives of harmless imbeciles and persons in temporary intoxication will soon discover that by discharging their natural duties they will be able to protect them from doing or suffering harm in their own homes as occasionally as they have been in the habit of doing by throwing them on the public.

Para 27. I do not pretend to say that a large proportion of the cases which present themselves can be thus dealt with. Wandering and dangerous lunatics, bonafide paupers will continue to constitute the mass of admissions, but it will, for the most part, be found that, in cases where application is made to a magistrate, for the admission of an insane by his relatives, the real object of the latter is merely to escape the cost and trouble of his safe custody, and a demand for payment will have a very satisfactory result.

(True Extracts)

Sd/- G. Bartlett.

Deputy Registrar Bengal Secretariat

Cir. Memo no. 1153

Copy of the foregoing correspondence forwarded for the information and guidance of the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh.

By his most obedient servant,

Sd/- E. T. Dalton

Commissioner of Chotanagpur

Chotanagpur
The 24th Sept. 1861

Year 1860.

From Major-General, Sir R. J. Birch, K. C. B., Secretary to the Government of India, Military Department, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, -(No. 1153, dated the 30th September 1861).

Sir,

With reference to my letter no. 280 of the 9th instant, relative to the prevalence of venereal diseases in Bazars at Hazareebagh, I am desired to request that the Hon'ble the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal may be moved to inform Government whether it has been found practicable to take any effectual measures to keep infected women out of the Civil Bazars.

No. 2652 A.

Copy forwarded to the Commissioner of Chotanagpore in continuation of endorsement No. 2539 A., dated the 24th ultimo, and with a request that he will submit an early report as to whether the evil complained of has by this time been removed and if so, to what extent.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal

Fort William,

The 8th October, 1861

J. MONRO,

Offg. Under-Secretary to the Government
of Bengal

Memo No. 1266

Copy of the foregoing forwarded to the Deputy Commissioner of Hazareebagh who is requested to report on the subject at his earliest convenience.

By his most obedient servant

Sd/- Illegible

Commissioner's Office

Chotanagpore

The 25th October, 1861

Commissioner of Chotanagpur

Memo No. 565 of 1861, from C. H. Lushington Esquire, Secretary to the Government of India, Financial Department No. 13544 A, dated the 9th November, 1861 to S. Simpson, Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh.

This letter chiefly deals with the ways and measures to be adopted for the execution of the Act XVIII, 1861 concerning Income Tax. It throws a good deal of light upon the income, classi-

fication of the artisans class and the last remnant of the Muslim administration of that period.

The centre of gravity of the well-to-do artisans class had shifted from village to town during the period under review. The average daily wages of the ordinary artisans were three annas per day. Chief wings of this class were carpenters, masons, and blacksmith. There were also superior class of artisans known as "Mistree" whose average daily income was six annas per diem (day). This classification was mainly based on the then existing order of the artisans class of the N. W. P. and the district of Muradabad but the letter mentions that such type of society was more or less prevalent in every part of India.

In general, in the country side the weavers class were called "Joolaha", but separately, the silk weavers were called "Reshme baf", the weavers of fine cotton fabrics "Noor baf" and the weavers of coarse cloth "Joolahas". All the persons of the above mentioned class whose income was above Rs. 50/- were liable to pay income tax. The Tahseeldar of each pergunnah, village Patwari and the chief of the trade guild "Chaudhree" were entrusted with the realisation of the income tax.

The income tax imposed specially on artisan class earning an average poor income of Rs. 50 only per annum suggests that the Britishers were determined to discourage our small scale and cottage industries.

Form of Oath the Assessor had to take.

Oath of Secrecy

I, Robert Conrad Rabehsher, appointed to act as Assessor under Act XXXII of 1860, do hereby solemnly swear that I will not disclose any particular, contained in any List, Return or Statement delivered with respect to any duties charged, or any profits or income chargeable under the Provisions and Rules of the said Act, or any assessment made under the same, or any evidence or answers given by any person who shall be examined, or shall make any affidavit, deposition, or statement respecting the same in pursuance of the said Act, excepting to such persons only as shall be appointed for the due execution of the said Act or where it shall be necessary to disclose the same, for the purpose of the said Act, or in the course of a prosecution for perjury committed in such examination, Affidavit, Deposition or Statement.

Sworn before me.

So help me God
Illegible

Sd/- Illegible
Deputy Commissioner
Hazaribagh

(163)

No. 3248.

From

The Superintending Engineer,
Behar Circle.

To

The Deputy Commissioner,
Hazaribagh.

Dated Gaya, 22nd March 1862.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter no. 208 of the 11th instant and to inform you that the Plan showing the proposed boundary for the Parasnath Sanitarium has been submitted for the orders of Government after the inspection and approval of the Commissioner of Chotanagpur ; when the sanction of Government is obtained to the boundaries, steps will be taken to build the necessary pillars, when the land required to be resumed can be taken up according to Regulation.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Obedient servant,

Sd/- Illegible

Lieut. Coll.

Superintending Engineer, Bihar Circle

EXCERPTS FROM RECORDS IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, NEW DELHI.

- (1) Select Committee Consultations, 28th December, 1761.
- (2) Select Committee Volume 14, 1768
- (3) Foreign Secret Consultations 4th August, 1769.
- (4) O. C. 3rd January, 1772.
- (5) Home Department Public Consultations 3rd January, 1772.
- (6) Foreign 1731, Pol. Cons. 25th November.
- (7) Foreign 1832, Consultations 2nd July.
- (8) Foreign and Political Consultations No. 35, 26th March, 1832.
- (9) Foreign Department Pol. Cons. 2nd July, 1832.

Select Committee Cons. 28th December 1761

The President also lays before the Committee the following translation of a letter he received from the Nabob.

“I received your Esteemed and Friendly letter acquainting me that you had made ready a part of the English Troops under the Command of Major Carnac who after the junction of Abou Ali Khan would march to Cuttack and reduce that province to the subjection of the Circar. That you were informed that the King accompanied with Shujah (Dowlah) had not proceeded forward but seemed to have designs this way, wherefore as the number of the English Troops here is too small it was your intention that Colonel Coote should come with an additional army which you should direct to march by the Road of Pachet to establish Hurri Narrain the Zemindar of that place. In answer to which I write this to acquaint you that Abou Allee Chan's destination was to pursue and perish Camgar Khan and settle the country of Ramgur as the said Camgar Khan is fled to Nagpore on the borders of the Deccan. Abou Ali Chan is waiting at Ramgur for an opportunity to seize or destroy him, and in the meantime is settling affairs with the Zamindar at Ramgur, and as the said Zemindar has been long in rebellion it is highly necessary to bring him to reason. I think therefore it will not be proper to leave the affairs of Ramgur and Camgar Khan unfinished, to proceed to other business and as to the news of these pacts it is thus by the blessing of God and your kind

and friendly assistance the flames of the disturbances of this Province are quenched, the forts reduced and the enemy fled. There is no disturbance in these districts and the King having marched to Gedjwon and crossed the Jumna near Culssee has proceeded towards the capital of Shahjehanabad and will very soon enter the City.

Your intelligence concerning his coming back this way with Shujah-ul-Dowlah is groundless. There is therefore at present no occasion for more troops here. If any troubles should arise which God forbid I shall then request your assistance. By the blessing of God I shall leave this place in two or three months and go to Bengal-at which time whatever shall seem most advisable with respect to sending an army into Cuttack or elsewhere may be settled and carried into execution.

From the

Nabob

Having taken into consideration the above letter the Committee are agreed that notwithstanding the great appearance of peace in the country and the little necessity of such an arbitrament that all things go forward and be prepared that are necessary for the former planned expeditions that we may thereby be at all times ready in case any unexpected disturbance arise.

The President is desired to write to the Nabob that if the Expedition against Cuttack is to be undertaken he must send his troops and Naib immediately otherwise we may be too late to accomplish it before the next rains.

Henry Vansittart
P. Amyatt
John Camac
Culling Smith
Warren Hastings
John Johnstone

To

Thomas Rumbold Esq.,
Collector of the Bahar Revenues

Sir,

We are now to reply to your Letter of the 1st ult. We do not perceive the necessity of sending a Military Force for the reduction of the countries of Palamow and Ramgur ; and we desire that no step of that kind be taken without our express orders.

If the old balances you make mention of were outstanding before the Company were invested with the charge of the Dewanee, you have

our permission to strike them off. But those incurred since that period must still continue on the books of the Dewanee Revenues.

Before any alteration can be made to the Jaghir lands in the Bahar province it is necessary we should be furnished with the fullest information possible concerning them for which purpose we desire you will transmit to us a particular account specifying therein distinctly the produce of it by whom granted and the tenor of each grant. We approve your intentions to ease the Farmers in their Rents where it can be effected without material prejudice to collection. But we apprehend you have been premature in your opinion with regard to the province not being able to admit of an increase ; as you must be better able to judge thereof in the tenor you propose to make ; and which we recommend to you to undertake as early as possible ; and we desire you will send us a very particular account of the State of the Bahar Province on your return to Patna.

As we imagine you can have no occasion for the ordnance and military stores you have received from the Commanding Officer at Bankipore, we desire they may be returned into the grand magazine at Patna.

Colonel Smith informs us that there are private buildings very near to the grand magazine, notwithstanding the Company have been at a great expense in removing golahs from that quarter ; we therefore direct they be pulled down ; and that no buildings whatever be erected within two hundred yards of it.

We are informed that Ensign Wallis is removed from his station at the Dowah—that Officer having behaved to our satisfaction whilst employed on that service we direct that he be sent thither again.

We are

Fort William

Sir

The 14th Augt. 1769

Your most obedt. humble servant

Received five Letters from Mr. Rumbold under Dates the 31st Aug. 19, 20 and 22 Ult. Ordered they be entered after the proceedings and resolved that the following reply be made to them.

To

Thomas Rumbold Esq.,

Supervisor of the Bahar Collections.

Sir,

We have been favoured with your several letters under dates the 31st August, 19, 20 and 22nd Ultimo to which we shall at present only

reply in part leaving the remainders to be the subject of another opportunity.

As we deem the military stores expended in the service of the collections a part of the charges to be deducted from the gross amount of the revenues and being desirous of ascertaining those charges in the minutest degree possible ; we desire you will transmit to us an account of military stores expended for that purpose in the Bahar Province from the commencement of the Company's being invested with the charge of the Dewanee together with an account of what remains in your possession.

We shall take into consideration the circumstances you mention relative to the present mode of collecting the revenues of Bhagalpore and to the payment of the brigade at Monghyr. In the meantime we must desire you will continue to supply Colonel Sir Robert Barker with Remittances of Money by Bills as amply as may be in your Power.

In our Letter of the... we directed that the Military Paymaster at Patna to transmit to the military Paymaster General his accounts of the Pergunnah Sepoys employed in the province of Bahar in the manner he had heretofore practised. The same directions were sent to the city in order that all charges incurred thereby might plainly appear at one point of view under the Head of Dewannee Sepoys in the military books of the Presidency and in order to put them in point of cloathing on the same footing as our Brigade Sepoys, it was judged necessary that the usual stoppages should be made from their pay for that purpose. Further regulations are under our consideration relative to the establishment of Pergunnah Sepoys which when resolved on shall be transmitted to you.

When we sent our orders concerning Palamow and Ramgur we did not mean to enter upon the propriety or impropriety of being possessed of those strong holds ; but had our reasons for directing that no enterprise be undertaken against them without our express orders.

We observe the reasons you have assigned for relieving in record time Ensigned Waller from his station at the Dewah. By relieving him you sufficiently convinced the officers of the Government, that we discouraged such behaviour in any person acting under our immediate authority ; but we disapprove of you sending him to his Brigade, without first receiving our permission so to do, more particularly as we had so lately directed the return of that officer to his station.

We are informed that you directed the officer at Dowah to obey only such orders as he may receive from the President or yourself. As it is

absolutely necessary that he should also be under the Orders of Colonel Smith we desire you will signify the same to him and in order that such directions as he may receive be the more effectually carried into execution, we direct, that Officer to transmit to the Colonel and you, copies of all orders sent him by either, that each of you gentlemen knowing the others intentions may the more easily cooperate in effecting the intended purpose of his being stationed there.

We are

Sir

Fort William,
6th October 1768

Your most obedient humble servant,

To

The Hon'ble Harry Verelst Esq.,

Gentlemen, President and Gentlemen of the Select Committee

I have received your Favours of the 14th and 17th and shall pay due attention to your injunctions in the former, your positive orders in the letter are obeyed, my letter under date the 20th will inform you that all the Brigade Sepoys were directed to join their Corps.

With regard to the Forts of Palamow and Ramgur it would be impossible for me to attempt any step for their reduction without first receiving your instructions as there is no Force to be spared from the business of the collections for such an undertaking.

The balances outstanding before the Committee were invested with the Dewanne were struck off by Mahomed Riza Khan. Those incurred since will remain a heavy load on the different Purgunnahs to terrify the ryots. Particular Accounts of the Jaghyre Lands are drawing out and shall be transmitted to you.

When I gave my opinion that the province would not admit of an increase of Revenues, I had no idea but that the close attention paid during two years. Charge of the collections and the knowledge that I might reasonably have been supposed to have obtained, during that time would have exempted me from any accusation of having offered my sentiments too prematurely.

Such Ordnance as I have no occasion for will be returned to the Grand Magazine, but as I am obliged continually to keep out Detachments there is a great expence of military stores, tho' I am careful to see there is no waste nor bad use made of them.

Such buildings as are within the distance you mention of the

magazine shall be pulled down, I must observe, none have been erected since my having the government of the garrison.

The officers stationed at the Dewah and Carumnassah were called from thence in consequence of orders from the President, and not from any particular directions of mine, it was recommended to relieve them and the sepoys of the Brigade Battalions, and I duly acquainted Mr. Verelest of my having comply'd with his instructions.

Patna 31st Augt. 1768.

I am

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient and humble servant,

Sd/- T. Rumbold

To

The Hon'ble Harry Verelst Esq.,
President and Governor and Gentlemen
of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

I did not receive your favor of the 6th till yesterday. The account of stores you desire shall be forwarded to you as soon as possible and your directions regarding the pergunnah sepoys be punctually observed.

The representation I made with respect to Palamow and Ramgur I thought a duty incumbent on my station not presuming further to judge of the propriety of sending a force but to wait your orders. My second address on the subject was to state the loss the Government had already and were likely to sustain from those forts not being reduced and in consequence of the paragraph in your favor of the 4th August. We do not perceive of sending a military force for the reduction of the countries of Palamow and Ramgur.

I am concerned Gentlemen I should fall under your censure for ordering Ensign Willen to join his Brigade, as I ever pay the strictest attention and utmost respect to the Orders of the Select Committee and Council. I at the same time claim the privilege of vindicating myself from my supposed misconduct, the not doing it would be a tacit acknowledgement that I merited the censure in the present case. I am to hope you will entertain a more favorable opinion. Ensign Willen was never appointed to the Pergunnahs but taken from the brigade for the service at the Dewah, and when relieved from that station, where could I send him with so great propriety as to the Corps to which he belonged, and which lay close to the city of Patna. We have not sufficient quarters to lodge the officers of the garrison

and as I could not look on Mr. Willen to be under my directions when called from his command I judged it proper he should wait your orders relative to his conduct under his own Commanding Officer, nor did I apprehend that you having ordered him back to his former station after he was first released could entitle him to any particular favor when he had plainly made so bad use of the notice you were pleased to take of him.

I shall immediately give directions to the Officer at the Dewa and Carumnassa to send returns to Colonel Smith, and to obey his orders as well as mine. It is certain I before gave them directions only to obey such as they might receive from the President or me, and it was in consequence of the Governors informing me they were to be in future under my command, when they were first sent to their different stations Colonel Smith's Orders were thus worded. "Unless the Governor of Fort William should at any time send you orders you are to consider yourselves as acting under my immediate orders only, and to obey no others".

When they were directed to obey me, the President's orders to them were.

"The future Directors of this business being committed to the charge of Mr. Rumbold Supervisor of the Bihar collections all orders you receive from him you are implicitly to follow.

I am thus particular as well to show the proper submission I shall ever pay to your instructions as to convince you I never intentionally would act contrary to the meaning of them.

Patna Oct. 27th 1768.

I am
Gentlemen
Your most obedient
humble servant,
Sd/- Thos. Rumbold

For. Secret Con. 4th August 1769 page 432

To

The Hon'ble Harry Verelst,
Prest. and Governor etc.,
Gentlemen of the
Select Committee

Gentlemen,

The detachment under Captain Goddard, that was sent to reduce the zemindars and settle the country about Balaghaut having effected

that service as far as their commission extended, I have ordered Captain Fenwick with the six companies of sepoys received from the 2nd Brigade to join his corps and Captain Goddard only to remain there with four companies.

Your orders not to make any attempt on Rhaur Ghur and Palamow being so very thick they could do no more than subject the zemindars of the countries bordering and secure the present collection of the revenues nor can anything be effectually settled while they remain a refuge to the inhabitants indebted to the Government, but as this is a point I have before so fully represented it is unnecessary to insist further upon it.

I am
Gentlemen
Your Most Obedient humble Servant
Thos. Rumbold

Patna
4th August 1769 |

Ramgarh-Hazaribagh O. C. 3rd January 1772

The letter is dated Patna the 16th September, 1771 and signed by George Vansittart and two others and addressed to the Jon. John Cartier, President.

The letter runs thus :

1771
Ramghur Rajas' conduct regarding payment of revenue and contemplation of bringing him under subjection.

“Herewith we have the honour to transmit you copies of three letters from Capt. Camac dated the 30th June, the 9th July and 18th August and translations of Persian accounts of Nagpur, Ramghur etc., delivered to us by Rajah Sitab Roy. Mucund Singh the present Ramghur Rajah has always been very deficient in the payment of his revenue and endeavoured as much as possible to maintain an independence on the Government and his troops have frequently invested the neighbouring Perganas with incursions, if he would give proper security for his future good behaviour and the payment of a revenue of 20,000 or 30,000 *Sonaut* rupees a year to the Government, it might perhaps be advisable to leave him undisturbed. But if not, we apprehend it would be proper to deprive him of the territories he usurped from Nurrut Samoy and Sherghatty and bring him under subjection, which at this juncture we believe Captain Camac would easily effect, and we imagine that these measures would in any case of Marhatta troubles contribute much to the security of the South-East side of this Province

and of Bhaugulpore and Beerboom in the Bengal Province. But the above mentioned enclosures and Captain Camac's letter of the 6th November, 1770 of which we transmitted a copy in our book of letters are so circumstantial that we shall submit the whole to your consideration without any further remarks."

An extract from the letter :—

"We agree with you in opinion that if he will give proper security for his future good behaviour and for the payment of a sum of money yearly to the Government he may be left unmolested and we desire that you will make proposals to him for making an equitable *Bundabust* of the revenue of his country and giving proper and sufficient security for payment of the same and for his good conduct in future. Should he reject their offers it will be expedient to compel him to obedience and to set an expedition on foot for procuring payment of the arrears and for the subjugation of the country and for this purpose you will make a proper representation to the Officer Commanding the troops at Dinapore and consult with him the force that will be sufficient and requisition it for the expedition.

From the good opinion we have formed of Captain Camac and the local knowledge which he appears to have acquired of the Ramgarh country and the adjacent districts we deem him to be a very proper person to attend on the expedition and to assist with his advice the officer who may command the detachment". (P. P. 16-17 and O. C. 3rd January, 1772).

In this letter Capt. Camac points out the vulnerability of the territory of Ramghur, the Rajah's unpopularity and his past conduct in opposing the Palamow expedition. Regarding Palamow it is mentioned "There he not only openly assisted the enemy with men and money but had the temerity to cut off the *Harcarrah* who carried the Government's Perwanahs.....He gave passage and protection to a French man with ten or twelve followers who was going from the Dekkan up the country notwithstanding I repeatedly wrote him to send him to methe greatest merit with the Rajah was his declaring himself an enemy to the English. Capt. Camac was convinced that the Rajah will make trouble in Palamow and destroy the garrison there and "oblige to abandon that conquest". Capt. Camac discussed the forces that will be helpful like this Palamow being now settled forms a perfect province (Possession) to the wealthy Perganas of Sasaram, Siriskotamba, Chauparan, Simnout and Sherghatty. It is now a check on the disturbances it used to encourage and give protection to....."

"The present situation of affairs in the hills afford us the first opportunity of re-occupying these places and gaining the absolute subjection of them with very little trouble or expense. The Nagpur Rajah who is strong and may be depended on, offers to come in and fall on him on his side. The Palamow people who are not inconsiderable are at my devotion, so that with Pachet and this part of this Province he is surrounded on all sides.

But what I build most on is the juncture of his Thakur and the zamindars of Chey etc. The former has been separated from the Rajah for sometime and is now in apprehension of his life.....he will cope with the Rajah himself. With him are connected the zamindars of Chey etc. who being dispossessed of the lands receive in lieu a small pension from Mucund Singh. They beg to pay their rent to the Government and are ready to throw themselves into my arms. From these circumstances I make no doubt of entirely subduing these places with the assistance of only four or five companies from the brigade in addition to what can be spared from the Nizamat sepoy and if a company or two were to make a diversion on the side of Patchet it would be of service. The country will be soon settled with zamindars and as Palamow only requires the same number of troops which used to be stationed in Siris Kutumba so with these places be perfectly retained in subjection by these troops which were used to guard the frontiers as it is only extending them. Even the zamindars themselves would be able to maintain them".

Home Dept. Public Cons. 9, 3 Jan'y 1772.

To

Joseph Jekyll Esq.,
Chief and the Gentlemen of the Comptrolling
Council of Revenue.

Gentlemen,

The Ramghur Vakeel who was sent with your Purwannahs on the subject of the balances has returned, but has brought no answer to them. The enclosed is his reply to my letter which accompanied them, which with its translation I have the honour of presenting to you. He says those balances which as renter he is absolutely accountable for, and due from Nagpoor, and as to those of Nirhut Samoy, tho they are the greater part, he says nothing of them. In short he does not mention a word of paying any. The Nagpoor agents are here to answer for themselves, and that Vakeel who is referred to by Muckund

Sing's letter, is now present. From these people you may learn more particularly the validity of his excuses, and what intention he has of paying, and on this head I request to be favoured with your orders, whether I shall apply any further about them or in what manner I am to demand them.

The continued ill behaviour of this Rajah has always made him remarkable to this Government and setting aside former affairs his conduct in opposition to the Palamow expedition has been very glaring. There, he not only openly assisted the enemy with men and money but had the temerity to cut off the *harcarra* who carried the Government's Purwannahs because he was so unfortunate as to be a witness of it. He gave passage and protection to a Frenchman with ten or twelve followers who was going from the Dekkan up the country, notwithstanding I repeatedly wrote him to send him to me and I am told this man's greatest merit with that Rajah was his declaring himself an enemy to the English. His Vakeel came the last of all those sent by the hill Rajahs after the fall of the Fort, and when he did come in, it was only as a spy and with the design of seducing Gopaul Roy the Rajah of Palamow from our interest. This Rajah immediately acquainted me of their tampering with him, and offering money and every assistance he might require in case of his sending for the Tackoray and again inviting all the hills as their common cause, and he now in consequence of Gopaul Roy's refusal gives every obstruction to the settling of the ryots and has plundered those returning to their country of cattle etc., to a great amount. Notwithstanding these hostile acts which I mentioned particularly in my different public letters I have not attempted to retaliate or get redress otherwise than by representing it to you in hopes of your taking a proper notice of it. From a good intelligence I am informed that in conjunction with the Tackoray to whom he has given some towns will leave no stone unturned to raise troubles in Palamow to keep the detachment employed and out of his country; and that he will whenever time serves use every endeavour to distress that garrison and oblige it to abandon that conquest. The whole tenor of his conduct and the distrust he has of us on account of our claims on him for these districts which in troublesome times he has usurped from this province are so many proofs that no dependance can be had on any accommodations with him and that he is a very improper person to be entrusted with passes which he has so unjustly possessed himself of and which are of such material import to this province. I mentioned the whole

circumstances regarding these districts and passes in a letter to Mr. Alexander dated the 6th of November last to which I beg leave to refer you at that time I was not so well acquainted with the value of them as at present. However I have not been informed of any thing disagreeing with the methods he is therein said to have acquired them. From the most particular enquiry I find they will be able to pay 85,000 Rupees a year which their zemindars are willing to take for five years on very good security considering circumstances ; and this revenue will be improvable beyond any other part of the province. This is an increase to the present revenue of 66,000 Rupees a year. But this is not the greatest advantage to be derived from the recovery of these places our right to which is incontestable. Palamow being now settled forms a perfect barrier to the wealthy Purgunnahs of Sassaram, Serriskotomba, Charkayan, Simnout and Sherghatty. It is now a check on the disturbances it used to encourage and give protection to. The same detachment required before in those Purgunnahs, now keeps them more effectually in subjection. Chey, Chumpa etc., is just the same with regard to the south east part of the Province. The robbers infest the lower country and its hills give an asylum to our fugitive and disaffected zemindars. Kamdar Khan knowing their use would never have given them up but on the last emergency and Cossim Ally Khan had entirely retaken them when his war with the company called back his troops. On that side we have scarce any footing on those hills or passes and if in the present peaceful state those people talk so independently and are so hardly kept within bounds, in case of a war how can we expect it will be otherwise than formerly ? That they will lay the country waste as far as Bahar. Kamdar Khan with difficulty restrained them tho he had always a large force.

The possession or at least having the entire influence of those hills will be a protection to Bengal as well as Bahar, as Palamow has secured one road to the Marhattahs ; so will this with the friendship of the Nagpoor Rajah shut up that by Nagpoor, Patchet, or Beerboom, and there will be no remaining entrance for them but by Orissa or by the West—The Province will be secured from Bulwant Sing's Country to Midnapoor.

This continual practice of retaining his balances makes it but justice to deprive him of places, which he has no other right to than as a common renter or fouzdar who is displaced at pleasure especially when he does not pay or does not comply with the Government's terms. The present situation of affairs in the hills affords us the finest oppor-

tunity of repossessing those places and gaining the absolute subjection of them with very little trouble or expence. The Nagpoor Rajah who is strong and may be depended upon, offers to come in and fall on him on his side. The Palamow people who are not inconsiderable are at my devotion, so that with Patchet and this part of this province he is surrounded on all sides. But what I build most on is the juncture of the Thakur and the zemindars of Chey etc. The former has been separated from the Rajah some time and is now in apprehension for his life, he writes me now to send a party to bring off his family and he will cope with the Rajah himself. With him are connected the zemindars of Chey etc., who being dispossessed of their lands receive in lieu a small pension from Muckund Singh, they beg to pay their rent to the Government and are ready to throw themselves into my arms : From these circumstances I make no doubt of entirely subduing these places with the assistance of only four or five companies from the brigade in addition to what can be spared from the Nizamut sepoy, and if a company or two were to make a diversion on the side of Patchet it would be of service. The country will be soon settled with these zemindars, and as Palamow only requires the same number of troops which used to be stationed at Sarrishkotomba, so will these places be perfectly retained in subjection by those troops which are used to guard the frontiers as it is only extending them. Even the zemindars themselves would be able to maintain them.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen
with the most profound respect
Your most obedient
humble Servant

Patna
18th August 1771

Sd/- T. Camac

Foreign 1831 Deptt. Poll. Consultation 25th Nov. No. 45-46

To

George Swinton Esqr.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the
Poll. Deptt. 21st ultimo and with reference to the 7th paragraph
beg to state as follows for the information of the
Hon'ble the Vice-President in Council.

2. When murders have been committed within the jurisdiction of any of the independent zemindars under the agency their proceedings have in general been submitted in detail to my predecessors in some instances in a satisfactory form but most frequently to the contrary the Chiefs for occasional pronounced sentence and appended it to the proceedings on which they have acquainted the Agent's orders but the course most commonly preserved has been to solicit instructions previously to pronouncing sentences. On the proceedings imprisonment in irons with hard labour for a period varying from 7 to 14 years has been awarded with a few exceptions of confinement in chains. In no instance has capital punishment been inflicted.

3. The course of proceedings which appears to me will be the best objectionable when heinous crimes may be perpetrated involving sentences requiring the Agent's confirmation is, for the independent Chiefs to continue to forward their proceedings as hitherto with sentences and when criminals seem to observe punishment exceeding imprisonment for 7 years the Agent should instruct the Chiefs to bring them before himself for trial on his first visit to the district when he would either confirm or alter their sentences. In event of the Agent in any instance deem it necessary to adjudge death for the sake of example he should be required to submit his proceedings or grounds of judgement to Government for confirmation previously to a culprit's execution.

4. The only objection which occurs to me to this mode of proceedings is the delay that may sometimes take place from the inability of the Agent to make a tour of each of the districts during a year. It is however preferable to entrusting the Chiefs with the power of punishing by death who would be apt to about it.

Hazaribagh,
Poll. Agent's Office,
Nov. 8th 1831.

}

I have etc.
Sd/- Wilkinson
Poll Agent.

Foreign 1832 Consultation, 2nd July, No. 10-12

Letter dated the 13th June, 1832 from the Secretary to the Governor-General to the Chief Secretary to the Government, Fort William cautioning in carrying out the policy in S. W. F. Province with great caution so that no disturbances occur. Also sanctioned an increase in the Ramghar Batallion by one thousand men, 200 irregular Horses. Also occurs, "An opinion should be required from the local

agent upon the expediency of recruiting from the native of that part of the country who are also to be accustomed to that climate."

A letter from Captain Wilkinson, Acting Political Agent, South West Frontier, dated Hazaribagh July 8th, 1832, to the Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William preserved in the National Archives, (*Foreign Department*, South West Frontier papers 831-32 volume-288) mentions that it would be impracticable to find men in Chotanagpur or Singbhum to take service in the battalion. The Lurka Koles will not submit to military discipline or take service if likely to be employed away from their homes. The Dhangar Koles may be available but will not make good service. Two companies of Dhangar Koles had been formed but were discharged in 1805-1806 as unfit for the service. It further mentions that the sepoys of Ramgarh Battalion had become victimised and there was not much of sickness. The last paragraph of the letter runs as follows :—

"The number of men required to complete the battalion may be recruited in Ramgarh, Gaya and Bhojpur. Indeed there have been here within the last three months upwards of 200 men who came to offer their services on a rumour having got abroad that the battalion was to be increased."

There is another letter to Capt. Wilkinson from the Chief Secretary agreeing with his suggestion of the last paragraph. This letter is dated the 16th July, 1832.

For. and Pol. Cons. No. 35, 26 March 1832.

To

The Secretary
to the Governor General

Sir,

I am directed to forward for submission to the Right Honourable the Governor General the accompanying copy of a letter of the 11th instant from the Acting Political Agent on the South West Frontier, and to add the following remarks on the part of the Vice President in Council.

2. It appears to be very desirable, that the detachment from the Ramgurh Battalion, which are stationed in Sumbhalpoor, Singboom, and Surgoojah, should be withdrawn. The only purposes for which they can be necessary is to overawe the subjects of the several Chiefs, and to support Governments which cannot maintain themselves and which

become totally inefficient, and regardless of their duties, from the very means adopted to uphold them.

3. It is not improbable that some trouble might follow the execution of this measure ; but as the principle of it would be good, it may be expected, that, in any event, a more satisfactory arrangement would be established, than that which at present exists.

4. The Vice President in Council therefore recommends, that our detachments be at a suitable period withdrawn, that our interference in internal management be made to sense, and that our protection against foreign aggression be continued subject to the payment of tribute or any other adequate recompense for our assent to that obligation. Tribute seems to be the proper return for protection, but it might be continued at its present amount, or modified, or reduced, or altogether remitted, according to its amount, the means of the parties, or other circumstances. In Singhboon it is already merely nominal not exceeding one hundred and one rupees. In Surgooja three thousand, three hundred and sixtytwo rupees, and in Sumbhulpoor including separate Purgunnahs about thirty thousand and seven hundred rupees.

5. The Vice President in Council does not advise that the change should take place abruptly, or without previous negotiation and arrangement as to what is to follow ; but certainly considers it to be on the whole highly desirable.

6. The condition of Sumbhulpoor demands special consideration. The Ranee is entirely set up by our authority and does not appear to have any right to rule. Her weakness is supposed to render the presence of our detachment indispensable, and it is apprehended that she will not be able to maintain her power without its continuance. In withdrawing it therefore it would be necessary to make some arrangements by which either her power might be secured, or some chief be raised to the guddee, with a better title to it, who might be able to maintain his own power, the Ranee retiring on a provision.

7. The former dependencies of Sumbhulpoor, designated the Ghurzats, also require consideration. If these could be restored, with the consent of the parties to their dependence in Sumbhulpoor, that would seem to be the most advisable arrangement for their disposal. If not, they must continue to be dealt with separately as at present.

8. We are interested in the permanent tranquillity of Sumbhulpoor and that quarter, from it being the most direct route to Bombay, and consequently the one on which our principal part to that side of India is established. This does not appear to the Vice President in Council

to be an inseparable objection to the change proposed, as it does not necessarily follow that our communication should be interrupted, but if on apprehension of such a consequence or of the other difficulties adverted to should deter the Right Honourable the Governor General from altering our present relations with Sumbhulpoor, it must then be considered, that a detachment locked up there, which there is little prospect of being able to diminish, forms no part of the available force of the Ramgurh Battalion, and must be regarded as a distinct force for the permanent service of Sumbhulpoor.

9. There may be peculiarities in and relations with Singhboom and Surgooja entitled to attention, should the general scheme proposed have the concurrence of the Governor General. In the meanwhile care will be taken to ascertain whether any exist which ought to affect the arrangement.

10. The Vice-President in Council strongly recommends the mere use of the Ramgurh Battalion to one thousand men and the addition of the two Irregular Horse, as proposed by the Acting Political Agent. If this be not approved by the Right Honorable the Governor General, it will hardly be possible to avoid some increase to the Force in that quarter by other means.

11. The Acting Agent notices, that the station of Huzareebaugh is not well suited for the Agent or for the force at his disposal. The Vice-President in Council is not however of opinion, that it is necessary to alter the station. Considering that it is the only station for troops on the high Road between Benares and Fort William it does not seem on the whole to be badly situated, and although it might answer better for particular purposes in other positions, it is not so necessary that a force should be stationed at any one spot, as it is, that it should be ready and available and efficient, at some places not far remote from those, at any of which it may be wanted. The salubrity of Hazareebaugh is greatly in its favor, and advantage which might be lost by a change. All things considered the Vice President in Council doubts whether any benefit to be derived from the removal of the station might not be more than counterbalanced by concomitant disadvantages.

Fort William,
26th March 1832,

I have etc. etc.
Sd/- G. Swinton
Chief Secy. to the Govr, Genl

For. Dept. Pol. Cons. 2 July 1832 no. 10

To

George Swinton, Esq.,

Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William.

Sir,

In reply to your letter dated 26th March last on the affairs of the Southwest Frontier I am directed to communicate to you the Governor General's entire concurrence in the general principles advocated by His Honor in Council for the management of our interests in that quarter.

His Lordship however, observes that great caution will be necessary in carrying into effect the measures which this line of policy requires. The consequences of each case ought to be separately considered before any change is finally resolved upon and with advertence to the tendency which it has been found by experience every disturbance in that quarter has to spread into the neighbouring districts and to the discredit which attaches to the Government from the frequent occurrence of disturbances of the public peace, much deliberation ought to be used before any measure is resolved upon which has a direct tendency to give rise to a state of hostility between the opposite parties in any of these States.

2. His Lordship concurs in the recommendation for an increase of the Ramghur Battalion to one thousand men and the addition to it of two hundred Irregular Horse and it is requested that immediate orders may be issued for raising the Battalion to the strength proposed. An opinion should be required from the local agent upon the expediency of recruiting from the natives of that part of the country, who can alone be accustomed to the climate. Orders will be issued hereafter on the subject of two hundred Irregular Horse when His Lordship shall have resolved upon the most unobjectionable mode of providing them.

3. His Lordship entirely concurs in the opinion expressed by the Vice President in Council regarding the expediency of continuing the Ramghur force in its present position at Hazaribagh.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedt servant,

Sd/- W. H. Macnaghten

Secy. to the Govr. General

Simla, the 13th June 1832.

For Dept. Pol. Cons. 2 July 1832 no. 11

To

Capt.

Offg. Pol. Agent, S. W. Frontier.

Sir,

I am directed to acquaint you that an increase of the Ramghur Battalion to one thousand men has been resolved. On that orders will be immediately issued for raising the Corps to that strength—you are requested to state your opinion upon the expediency of recruiting from the natives of that part of the country who can alone be accustomed to the climate.

Fort William,
2nd July 1832.

I have etc.,

For Dept. Pol. Cons. 2 July 1832 no. 12

To

W. H. Macnaghten, Esqr.,
Secy to the Govr. Genl,

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 13th ultimo, regarding the increase of the Ramghur Battalion and to state to you in reply, that immediate orders will be issued in the Military Dept. to carry that measure into effect.

2. The Acting Political Agent on the S. W. Frontier has been called on for his opinion with respect to the expediency of recruiting from the Natives of the part of the country.

Fort William,
29th July 1832.

I have etc.,

APPENDIX

"The Sepoy Mutiny" In Chotanagpur. *

(P. C. Roy Chaudhury)

Historical Inexactitudes :

The British chroniclers have given a very perverted account of what is known as "The Mutiny of 1857" in Chotanagpur. A strenuous attempt was made to show that the mutineers did not have any popular support and that the mutiny could be put down very easily. A study of some of the original sources in the National Archives in New Delhi and in the Record Rooms in the District Collectorates, however, shows that this recital is absolutely unsupported, and, on the other hand, the movement was very popular, widespread and acute.

Lister in the District Gazetteer of Hazaribagh published in 1917 has quoted two paragraphs from the Settlement Report and apparently he corroborates them. The quotation is as follows :—

"The sepoy mutiny in Chotanagpur started in and ended in Hazaribagh district. At the beginning of August 1857 the Hazaribagh detachment of the Ramgarh Battalion consisting of two companies of the 8th Regiment mutinied. News of their revolt was sent to Ranchi, and Lieutenant Graham was sent from there with a detachment of the Ramgarh Light infantry to disarm them. His detachment mutinied on the road, and joined the Hazaribagh detachment which was marching on Ranchi, at Burmu. The combined force continued to march on Ranchi, and Captain Dalton the Commissioner, after ascertaining that the remainder of the native troops at Doranda were not loyal, withdrew with all the Europeans by the Ramgarh road to Hazaribagh and from there retired to Bagodar to await support coming along the Grand Trunk Road. As soon as a guard of Rattary's Sikhs was put at his disposal Colonel Dalton reoccupied Hazaribagh, and from there kept under observation the movements of the mutineers. The mutinous troops had received no support in Hazaribagh, and very little in Ranchi. They stayed in Ranchi for over a month, and then moved west-ward, with the idea of joining another body of sepoys under Kunwar Singh near Rohitasgarh. Their advance was opposed at two of the ghats by loyal zamindars, but after forcing

* Through courtesy of "Bengal, Past and Present," Calcutta in which the paper was published (P. C. R. C.)

the breast-works with their cannon they marched through Chandwa and Balumath in Palamau to the town of Chatra. While they were looting there they were surprised and attacked by a much smaller mixed force consisting of 320 men, and completely defeated, their guns and all their ammunition were captured, 150 were killed, and the remainder fled in the direction of Sherghati and dispersed.

* * * * *

“While there was no sympathy with the mutineers in Hazaribagh the Santals not unnaturally became excited by the weakening of authority and thought the occasion opportune for squaring accounts with money-lenders and others. Several bands of Santhals collected for marauding purposes and were joined by the local bad characters, and a certain amount of plundering occurred between Gola and Chas (i.e., thana Peterbar) in Kharagdiha, at Kuju on the Ramgarh road and at Jharpo near Bagodar. At Mandu they were instigated by three local landholders to commit murder as well as plunder the village. The landholders instigating the murder were subsequently caught and hanged. A small punitive expedition of Sikhs was sent to Gola and the excitement died out immediately. The disturbances were only sporadic ; there was no organized movement among the Santals as a whole, and no special measures against them were considered necessary after the rising had subsided. Instead, it was decided shortly after the mutiny to raise a levy of Kols and Santhals for military police, and a body of 500 of the more ardent aboriginals was enlisted for this work. Similarly in the north of the district the news of the sepoy rising invoked some small uprising among the dispossessed Bhuiya *tikaits*, who considered the opportunity suitable for recovering their lands from the purchasers and occupying them ; and they received some support from their tenantry.”

Unfortunately some of the assertions are historical in-exactitudes. The original sources in the shape of old English correspondence that are available in the Record Rooms as well as in the National Archives bear out that not only the so called “Sepoy Mutiny of 1857” was a very popular move but there were earlier spontaneous moves in the different districts of Chotanagpur to throw away the foreign yoke. In this paper some of these original sources are proposed to be discussed.

British occupation of Chotanagpur :

But before the actual recital of some of the original letters disproving the assertions is the Settlement Report reiterated by Lister, it is necessary

to give a very short resume of the establishment of British authority in Chotanagpur. The subah of Bihar along with most of the part now known as Chotanagpur passed into the hands of the East India Company with the grant of the Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa by Emperor Shah Alam. This gift entitled the Company to receive the tribute of Raja of Ramgarh, the land revenue of Kharagdecha and Kendi and the services of Kunda. But the area was hilly and difficult of access and the degree of control was very small. It was early considered necessary that the districts should be properly reduced to subjugation. Captain Camac was entrusted near about 1769 to establish some sort of order in the "Junglebery district" by which name Hazaribagh was then known. Captain Camac was successful to a great extent and from Ramgarh he carried on operations in Palamau district near about 1772. Camac was succeeded by Chapman in 1780 who has been described as the first civilian administrator of Chotanagpur. The "Conquered Provinces" were formed into a British district and the district comprised roughly the present districts of Hazaribagh, Palamau, portions of Manbhoom and the area all round Sherghaty now in Gaya district. To this area later was added the present district of Ranchi which was then known as the tributary mahals of Chotanagpur. The head quarters of Chapman was held alternatively at Sherghaty (Gaya) and Chatra (Hazaribagh). Ramgarh Battalion was early stationed at Hazaribagh to help Chapman's administration.

Kol Rebellion :

The subsequent Kol rebellion in Singhbhum was followed by active operations in that great Kol area and Singhbhum was brought under subjugation by 1833. By Regulation XIII of 1833 the districts of Ranchi and the Jungle Mahals with the estates of Dhalbhum, till then included in Midnapore, were exempted from the operations of the regulations and every branch of the administration was vested in the officer designated as the Agent to the Governor General. This Agent had his principal Assistants at what are known now as the districts of Hazaribagh, Ranchi and Singhbhum. The administrative headquarters were shifted from the alternative sites of Sherghaty and Chatra to Hazaribagh one of the chief reasons being the Ramgarh Battalion that had been stationed there from before. A set of rules was drawn up for the administration of criminal justice and these rules continued till they were superseded by the Criminal Procedure Code of 1861. But for civil justice a separate set of rules had been drawn up which continued for a very much longer time.

The movement commonly known as "the Sepoy Mutiny" in 1857, was however, not an isolated land-mark. It was, in a way, a more pronounced conflagration spread all over the area in Chotanagpur along with Bihar but, nevertheless, prior to this movement there was a formidable Kol rebellion in Singhbhum district near about 1833 and a widespread Santhal revolt in Hazaribagh district in 1853-55.

Why Hazaribagh and Palamau over run ?

To appreciate the factors behind these popular revolts against the British rule one has to look into the cause that brought the British into the different districts of Chotanagpur. While the British or the East India company had spread themselves to other parts of Bihar for trade purposes they had come to Chotanagpur districts because of purely administrative reasons. A Select Committee proceedings dated the 16th January, 1772 shows that Hazaribagh and Palamau were actually over-run because of the danger arising from the Marhattas. Although the Marhattas had been reduced for the time being the danger was not over. It is mentioned in the letter "Without stopping the roads of the Provinces of Bihar, Bungeepoor, Ramgur, Bishanpur, Birboom, we cannot hope to defeat their attempts but whenever they make any irruption we shall have to follow them from one place to another and the country will be laid waste. Therefore it is necessary first to stop the passage of the Marhattas." Captain Camac very early saw the unpopularity of the Raja of Ramgurh, the vulnerability of the territory of Ramgurh and he fully utilized the opportunity. A letter of Captain Camac to the chief of Revenue of Patna in O. C. 3rd January, 1772 shows the working of the mind of Captain Camac. Captain Camac discussed the forces that would be helpful and mentioned "Palamau being now settled forms a perfect Province (possession) to the wealthy Parganas of Sasaram, Siris Kutamba, Chauparan, Simnout and Sherghatty..... The present situation of affairs in the hills afford us the first opportunity of reoccupying these places and gaining the absolute subjection of them with very little trouble or expense."

Singhbhum :

The same mailed-fist which Captain Camac demonstrated in Hazaribagh and Palamau districts was shown by the early British rulers in Singhbhum district. The Kols in Singhbhum district rose to a man after brooking the first phase of the British rule. They found their old customs and social solidarity being tampered with. They found their Mankees and Mundas system which kept up the solidarity of the Kols

both socially and politically torn to pieces. The Kol insurrection of Singhbhum was a major event,—Khandu Patel of Seraikella fomented the genuine dissatisfaction and he has been mentioned in Foreign Consultation 12-3-1832. no. 87-88. From F. C. 23rd January 1832 no. 118 it appears that the Kols at Singhbhum had even spread into Sonapoor in Orissa and raised the standard of revolt there. After the Kol revolt was mercilessly put down Captain Wilkinson, Acting Political Agent, South West Frontier was specially commissioned to bring about as much peace as possible in Singhbhum area. Wilkinson's Rules were drawn up for the administration of the Kols and some of them still stand good. There is no doubt that Captain Wilkinson had a certain amount of vision in him and appreciated the difficulties and problems of the Kols to some extent. He tried to save the Kols from the clutches of the Mahajans, Baniyas and the adventurers from outside who were buying up their lands and putting them into perpetual indebtedness.

Santhal rebellion in Hazaribagh:

The Santhal rebellion in Hazaribagh district was another spontaneous move against the ruthless tampering with their social ideas, customs and institutions. Here also the Santhals found that their best lands were being taken away by the foreigners. The Santhal Rebellion in Hazaribagh district in 1853-55 has not drawn as much attention as the Santhal rebellion in Santhal Parganas which led to the creation of a separate district of Santhal Parganas.

The old English Correspondence maintained in the Record Room of the Deputy Commissioner of Hazaribagh throws a good deal of light on the Santhal movement of Hazaribagh district in 1855. The Assistant Principal Commissioner in 1855 thought that although there was some dissatisfaction amongst the Santhals, he did not anticipate any general rise. He depended on the Zamindars to keep the Santhals in check but he was wrong in his impression. From the very beginning of 1856 there was a movement among Santhals of the Hazaribagh district. The Deputy Magistrate at Burhee was re-inforced by the section of a Cavalry under Lt. Ryan and a reserve force from Kharagdiha was also sent to make an example of the rebel Santhals. But by May 1856 all the Santhal

1. Letter No. nil dated the 30th August, 1852 from the Government of Bengal to the Magistrate at Govindpur

2. Letter No. 600 dated the 15th January, 1855 from the Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh

population had risen to a man and Lt. Ryan met with some reverses.

3. Letter No. 478 dated the 1st Nov. 1855 from the Commissioner Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner Hazaribagh.
- The ringleaders were, Lubia Manjhi, Bairu Manjhi and Arjun Manjhi. All the blacksmiths were put under surveillance as they were suspected of manufacturing arms. Bhairu Manjhi was arrested and the informer Tek Narain Singh was rewarded handsomely. The tempo of the British administration was such that Mr. Tweedie, Deputy Magistrate on special duty at

Kharagdiha was asked to "let me know what would you require to carry out the destruction and no sources will be spared to supply you as quickly as possible. The Santhal rise had brought a lot of suspicion on the zamindars. The Raja of Ramgarh was specially asked to send out armed men to the interior of thana Gomia as some of the hills had already been occupied by the Santhals. There were ruthless military operations to put down the Santhals and Chuhars who were often described as "the Budmashes". The 40th Regiment was sent for

putting down the Santhals and the hills and jungles were ransacked to trace them. A very large number of Santhals were arrested on suspicion and were released only after being confined for a pretty long time. Many Santhals' huts were burnt to ashes to strike terror in their mind. A large number of Santhals were tried and convicted to hard labour and irons. Some of them were transported for life beyond sea with hard labour and irons.

6. Letter No. 612 dated the 21st January, 1856 from the Commr. Chotanagpur to the Principal Asst. Commr., Hazaribagh

7. Letter No. 612 dated the 28th Jan. 1856 from the Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh-

As there was a later unrest amongst the Santhals in Bhagalpur Division every attempt was made to see that the contagion in Hazaribagh

8. Letter no. 622 dated the 28th February, 1856 from the Commissioner Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh. district does not spread in Bhagalpur Division. Among the men suspected for fomenting the Santhal trouble mention has been made in the old Correspondence of Raja of Serampur, the servants of the Ex-Ameer of Sceinde and the Meer Saheb at Hazaribagh. Ruthlessness had gone to the extent of Mr. Tweedie, Deputy Magistrate at Burhee writing "I have arrested some

Santhals who were concerned in the late illegal assembly and plunder.

9. Letter no. 682 dated the 16th March, 1856 from the Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh. Although I have no evidence legal to convict still I consider it my duty as a policy of the State to put restraint on these men by confining them at Burhee until such time as it may be deemed expedient to act otherwise". Ample rewards were offered for the apprehension of the suspects and the correspondence shows that a number of Santhal women were also imprisoned for

their association with the rebellion. This ruthlessness and the helplessness of the Santhals contributed to the suppression of the movements.

10. Letter no. nil dated the 27th March, 1857 from Nizamat Adalat, Fort William to the Deputy Commissioner, Chotanagpur.

11. Letter no. 17 dated the 12th May, 1857 from the officiating Commissioner of Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh.

"The Sepoy mutiny". In Chotanagpur: Military: Zamindars:

The Santhal Rebellion had just subsided when there was the bigger conflagration known as the Sepoy Mutiny. There was a superficial calm which suddenly liquidated itself and almost simultaneously the first Native Infantry Detachment at Dinapore, Hazaribagh, the 12th Irregular Cavalry at Segowlee and the Ramgarh Battalion at Chotanagpur mutinied. It was not confined to just a few men in the military. The long lists of the persons that had mutinied which are found in the old Correspondence Volumes in the office of the Commissioner of Ranchi for 1857-58 show that the infection had spread far and wide.

Letter no 280 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner, Chotanagpur dated Fort William the 30th March, 1858.

The Mutiny was not confined to the army alone. A statement of cases tried under Act XIV of 1857 and 1858 in the Division of Chotanagpur mentions one Koreban Ally a Jamadar of the Principal Assistant in Collectorate who had been convicted to 14 years' imprisonment for "Rebellion and causing the proclamation of the Badshahee Raj on or about the 4th August, 1857."

No. 3118 from the Secretary to the Government of Bengal to the Commissioner, Chotanagpur dated the 11th August, 1858.

Koreban Ally not only actively joined the mutineers but he appears to have been the link between the mutineers section of the Army and some of the zamindars. Thakurai Kishan Dayal Singh raised the rebellion in Palamou District and burnt some Thanas in that district. Tikayat Omraon Singh and Sheikh Bhikhari were given capital sentence and forfeited their property of every description and the execution of the sentence was carried out on the 8th January, 1858. These two persons were charged for having attempted to prevent the return of the Government officers with troops to Chotanagpur by closing the Chootoopaloo and Cheroo ghats. From the statement of cases it appears that the sentence was passed on the 6th January and no time was lost in executing the sentence two days later. Thakoor Bishwanath Shahi, an important landlord of Lohardagga district was sentenced in April, 1858 to capital punishment and forfeiture of all his property. It is mentioned in the statement that Thakoor Bishwanath Shahi was one of the most influential zamindars in Chotanagpur and had joined the mutineers of the Ramgarh Battalion and closed the ghats to prevent the return of the Government officers to the district. It was further observed that "The prisoner more-over promised to give the Sepoys *Badshahee* pay. The prisoner also seized some wealthy merchants and caused them to be plundered and illtreated them with the purpose of extorting the sum of Rs. 25,000/- to enable him to fight against the Government. After the defeat of the Ramgarh Battalion at Chutra the prisoner returned to Chotanagpur and a large body of men having been collected by him several villages were plundered and the Government Thana at Barwa was burnt. The prisoner had assembled a force of 1,100 men with a view of attacking the town of Lohardagga and arrived close to the places when the Principal Assistant who was stationed with some sowars at Lohardagga made a night march and captured the prisoner who was hanged by the orders of the Court on the 16th April last."

Pandey Ganpat Rai who was a former Diwan of the Maharaja of Chotanagpur was elected the Commandar-in-Chief by the Mutineers and

came to Doranda. He joined Thakoor Bishwanath Shahi and was also arrested and sentenced on the 21st April, 1858 and hanged on the very same day. A large number of persons who assisted Bishwanath Shahi were also hanged or sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Bishwanath Shahi who had been hanged for rebellion had some endowments and claims in Jagarnath temple in his confiscated estate to which the priest had laid claims. Capt. Davies, Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga was asked to separate the village of Jagarnathpur from the rent-paying portion of the confiscated estate and make it over to the priest to the service of the temple. But the Senior Assistant Commissioner was warned that the widow and the children of the late proprietors should not be allowed to reside in the old Gurh at Hatia.

Military Pensioners:

It further appears that a large number of Military Pensioners had taken arms against the British. The Lt. Governor warned that the insurgents under the rebel Kooer Singh of Jagdishpoor included a large number of Military Pensioners of Government. It was suggested that all the Military Pensioners in Bihar should present themselves within a given period before the officer through whom their pension were given for the purpose of screening.

Headmen : Villagers :

Not only the Military Pensioners but a large number of the headmen had joined the movement. The Principal Assistant Commissioner, Manbhoom gave to the Senior Assistant Commissioner, Lohardagga a long list of the headmen who had plundered in Jaipur, Kaspal and Gola Parganah in the districts of Manbhoom and Hazaribagh. The landed proprietors, big or small, as a class, remained passive and it was only a very few of them that came to the help of the British. This "passive loyalty" and complacent attitude were very severely commented on by

the Commissioner of Chotanagpur to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal. Not only the Commissioner was fully satisfied that the great landed proprietors and the Rajas of Gurjat Mahals were passively loyal but he further observed that if they had actively cooperated, there would not have been further disturbances in Chotanagpur from the date of their re-occupation of the districts. He remarked that they had "secretly aided and encouraged the rebels". The rewards that had been offered for the apprehension of guilty persons did not have any effect. In the despatch it was mentioned that not a single incident of arrest was due to the help of the zamindars and it was only the Military or the Police who, without the help of the people, had captured the rebels. In the hilly tracts the Ghatwalis and the villagers had exploited the situation. It was only a fore-gone conclusion that taking advantage of the general unrest and confusion there would be some persons to take advantage and loot. As a matter of fact this passive and complacent attitude of the zamindars who had the charge of most of the Police Thanas of that part led to the British change their ideas and after peace was restored the system of the Zamindar-Police Thanas was slowly liquidated.

Ruthless Measures.

Ruthless measures were taken to suppress the movement. One of the earliest measures was the promulgation of Act XIV of 1857. The Principal Assistant of Lohardagga was appointed to be a Commissioner under section 7 of Act XIV of 1857. Circular no. 1792 dated the 15th August, 1857 clarifies the effect of the declaration of Martial Law and of the extension of Act XIV of 1857 on the jurisdiction of the ordinary Criminal Courts of the district to which these measures were applied. It was mentioned that the declaration of Martial Law did not affect the executive functions of the Magistrate. But as regards higher Criminal Courts their functions were suspended by the declaration of Martial Law and all heinous offences were to be tried by the Commissioners appointed under Act XIV of 1857. In the Archives of the Commissioner's office at Ranchi there are long lists of Sepoys including the Hindus and Mohammadans belonging to 1st, 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 9th, and 10th and of the Ramgarh Light Infantry who was sentenced to various terms of imprisonment and forfeiture of their property under the orders of Major G. G. Macdonnal who conducted the European General Court Martial.

A great hunt was ordered to be made for capturing all the prisoners

Letter No. 67
from the
officiating
Commissioner of
Chotanagpur to
the Secretary to
the Government
of Bengal, Fort
William dated
the 19th April,
1858.

Letter no. 1555
dated the 1st
August, 1857 to
the Commissioner.

who were taking leading part in the Province of Bengal. From time to time lists with the Descriptive Roll of the prisoners with their parentage were called for from the District officials. Strict screening was ordered to be made for new recruits to Government employment. The Secretary to the Government of Bengal warned the Commissioner that the disbanded Sepoys and State Mutineers were on no account permitted to find their ways in the Government employment. In another Circular it was ordered that the grounds for awarding sentence falling short of Capital punishment were to be given.

Letter no. 3973
from the Secy. to
the Govt. of
Bengal to the
Commissioner
dated the 21st
November, 1857.

The local administrative machinery was considered to be inadequate to hunt down the rebels. Letter no 283 from the Secretary to the Government of India to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal dated Allahabad the 13th March, 1858 mentions that Mr. J. C. Wilson was put at the head of a Commission that was created for the apprehension and punishment of Mutineers and Rebels. It was mentioned that the primary business of the commission was the detection, trial and punishment of the Mutineers although it was not intended that the commission should be spending time in hunting out people who had been in rebel. These duties were still to be performed by the District Officers and it is quite clear that the commission that was set up was an independent body for coordinating some of the work.

Letter no. 283
from the
Secretary to the
Govt. of India to
the Secy. to the
Govt. of Bengal
dated the 13th
March, 1858.

A careful watch was also ordered to be kept on all religious mendicants and vagrants and to retain in custody all such who would not give a satisfactory account of themselves or find a security for good conduct. It was mentioned "That these people are known to convey letters concealed about their persons or in the hollow of their Latties, the clothes and other articles of these persons to whom any suspicion attaches should be strictly watched and where any evidence of sedition is discovered the culprit should be immediately tried and dealt with law."

Letter no. 2382
from the
Secretary to the
Government of
Bengal to the
Commissioner.

In Singhbhum district the Raja of Porahat was actually driven to revolt by the tactless handling of the situation by Lt. Birch. In Singhbhum as soon as the Military revolted the administrator ran away and the Raja of Seraikella was asked to look after the affairs. The Raja of Porahat whose position and status were higher than those of the Raja of Seraikella took an offence at this. But

Letter no. 1,25,
31, 33, 34, 40,
50, 51, 69, 70
in Singhbhum
Correspondence
during 1856-57
Vol. VI in
Ranchi Comm-
issioner's office.

nevertheless, while a section of the rebel Army was crossing the Raja of Porahat put them under arrest and kept the part of money that they had looted from the Treasury.

After some time when Lt. Birch was appointed to restore calm the Raja of Porahat was at once declared a rebel and a warrant of arrest was issued. Capt. Dalton who was the Commissioner of Chotanagpur strongly opposed this move and characterised it as a tactless and uncalled for action. But somehow Dalton's subordinate Lt. Birch has his order sustained. This drove Raja Arjun Singh to go to the Commissioner and deliver to him the money of the Treasury and the Mutineers that were under his custody. The Commissioner asked him to report to the Principal Assistant of Chayebassa, Lt. Birch, but the Raja made himself scarce. The Raja was later apprehended and banished to Benaras and the Porahat estate was escheated. The Porahat Raja was fully supported by the Kols who under the Mankees and Mundas once again rose against the British Rule. Ruthless operations of the Military rule broke their back-bone. The move in Singhbhum district was characterised by the abundant support from the tribals.

Commissioner Dalton, reported to the Secretary, Board of Revenue that the report about the Mutiny in Hazaribagh sent by Major Simpson,

Letter no. 7 dated the 7th October, 1857 from the Commissioner E.T. Dalton, Chotanagpur to the Secretary Board of Revenue Fort William.

Principal Assistant had never reached him. This would show the acuteness of the revolt and that it was not a superficial defection on the part of a section of the Military only. Dalton Infantry stationed at Hazaribagh revolted on hearing of the defection of the Mutineers Regiments at Dinapur. The Military at Hazaribagh revolted on the 30th July, 1857, burnt the Bungalow of

Civil Officers and plundered the Treasury. They further ransacked the Cutchery and the Record Rooms and released the convicts from the Jail. At Lohardagga the Infantry and the Artillery of the Battalion mutinied on the 2nd August and the European officers both Civil and Military left the station leaving the Mutineers to do what they liked to the Civil population.

The Cutchery was completely destroyed by fire and most of the English and Vernacular Records were burnt or torn, including the Settlement papers of Pargana Palamou. In Purulia the Detachment of the Ramgarh Light Infantry revolted on the 5th August, 1857 and plundered the Treasury. Here the Mutineers immediately went to join

the Mutineers at Dorandah. The Civil population who had very little affection for the administration burnt all the Government buildings including the Cutchery. Most of the Records including the quinquennial or decennial settlement papers were destroyed. Dalton mentioned that through the instrumentality of the Raja of Porahat Rs. 25,500/- of Singhbhum Treasury had been recovered. The memorandum showing the damages done by the Mutineers to the several Treasuries in the Chotanagpur Commissionership shows that Lohardagga Treasury lost Rs. 162, 296, Hazaribagh Treasury, Rs. 93,872, Manbhum Treasury, Rs. 111, 194 and Singhbhum Treasury, Rs. 37,705 in round numbers.

Tempo of the Administration :

In Hazaribagh Old Correspondence Volume for 1857 there is a letter with an extract from the Proceedings of the Governor General of India in Council in the Home Department, under dated the 31st July, 1857 and the first paragraph shows the tempo of the administration. The first paragraph runs as follows :—

Proceedings of
C. G. in the Home
Department 31st
July, 1857.

“The Governor General of India in Council has observed with approbation the zealous exertions the local Civil Authorities for the apprehension and condign punishment of the Mutineers and Deserters concerned in the present revolt. It was necessary by the severe and prompt punishment of such of these criminals as found their way into the districts in our possession where the minds of the Native Troops could not but be in a very unsettled state through the men for the most part had abstained from open mutiny, to show that the just fate of the Mutineer is death, and that the British Government was powerful to inflict the penalty. It was necessary also by the offer of rewards for the apprehension of all deserters, to check the crime of desertion which was becoming rife in some of these Regiments, and to prevent the possible escape of men who, apparently mere deserters, had been concerned in such terrible atrocities that their apprehension and condign punishment was an imperative duty.”

The Proceedings cover Rules that were to be followed in giving punishments to the deserters. From the facts that have been cited before it will be difficult to accept the statement in the proceedings that “The men for the most part had abstained from open Mutiny.”

Among the other measures adopted to meet the situation may be mentioned a general declaration of a reward of Rs. 10/- for the re-capture of each of the prisoners who had been released by the Mutineers from the Jails in the Province of Chotanagpur. The same letter also mentions that the holder of the Jail establishment at Chayebassa was "dismissed and declared to be incapable of ever again serving the Government." "Another measure was to hunt down the Santhals who had again risen in Hazaribagh district. The Commissioner wanted the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh to take particular steps to stop the deprivations by the Santhals in the South-East portion of Hazaribagh. It was mentioned that Capt. Oakes had been sent out with the Detachment of Sikhs who were still in the Vicinity of Jaipur in Manbhum district. The Principal Assistant Commissioner at Hazaribagh was ordered to proceed to Golah with 100 Sikhs to co-operate with Captain Oakes in putting down the lawless gatherings of the Santhals. An extract from the proceedings of the Presidency Court of Nizamut Adaulat under date 27th March, 1857 which was sent to Hazaribagh shows that one Lattie Manjee was sentenced to 14 years and one Gurmu Manjee to three years imprisonment for "Illegally and riotously assembling with offensive weapons for the purpose of plunder or to commit a serious breach of the peace leading to the wilful murder of Pooran Singh Dafadar and Ramsharan Pandey, Sowar."

Regarding the course of the Sepoy Mutiny in Hazaribagh district the Principal Assistant Commissioner of Hazaribagh give a report to the officiating Commissioner of Chotanagpur. There are other Correspondences that the Santhals armed with bow and arrow used to assemble at frequent intervals and the Sikhs of Ramgarh Infantry used to be deputed to disperse the Santhals. The Raja had reported in September 1857 about the rise of the Santhals at various places with Rupu Manjee as their leader. Two other Santhal leaders Arjun Santhal and Rambani Manjee had been apprehended and forwarded to Hazaribagh with a report on the 21st November, 1857. The battle at Chutra was a major event in the course of the Sepoy Mutiny in 1857 in the Hazaribagh District and this battle was won by the British only because of their superior Military force.

No. 1909 from the Secretary to the Government, Bengal to the Inspector of Jails, Lower Provinces dated the 30th Sept., 1857

Letter No. 29 from the Commissioner, Chotanagpur to the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh dated the 25th Sept., 1857.

Letter without number dated the 4th Oct. 1857 from the Principal Assistant Commissioner, Hazaribagh to the officiating Commissioner, Chotanagpur.

Mass Movement :

From the recital of the facts gathered from the original sources in the shape of letters received at and despatched from the zones where the so called Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur had occurred it will not be correct to say that the Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur had started in and ended in Hazaribagh district, nor would it be correct to say as mentioned in the Settlement Report and supported by Lister in the District Gazetteer of Hazaribagh published in 1917 that the Mutineer's Troops had received no support in Ranchi. It will also be a factual in-exactitude to state that the Santhals were merely excited for looting money and were instigated by the land-holders to loot and murder. It will be difficult to support the theory that the disturbances were only sporadic and that there was no organised movement amongst the Santhal as a whole. The facts cited above will show that the so-called Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur was a mass movement which had very widespread and deep support from the different sections of the Civil population. The Santhals, the Cultivators, the Ex-Military pensioners, the Headmen and the landed-proprietors had all joined the movement that may have been started by a section of the Military. If the movement was not a popular movement declaration of ample rewards to the rebels would have had the adequate response. It is true that the leaders of the movement in Chotanagpur had not been so publicised or might not have the stature of the leadership of Kooer Sing of Shahabad but nevertheless their contribution to the bid for freedom is very considerable. It is unfortunate that the valuable Records in the Archives of the Government had not been studied so far properly with a view to draw the correct picture of the so called Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur. The Research workers will find ample materials in the Archives of the Government for reconstructing the story of the so called Sepoy Mutiny in Chotanagpur.



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